CONTENTS

Keep Those Condoms Away From Our Kids・
ゴムのいらない子供たち ― 5

The Iron Maiden
リッサの鉄の柩 ― 37

The Sunflower Quality of an Integrated Circuit
集積回路のヒマワリ ― 61

The Other Side Of the Rose Wire
バラ鉄線のむこう側 ― 101

Fish Out of Water
籠の魚 ― 119

Mister Mineral
鉱物君 ― 135

Alive
あなたは生きている ― 151

Mitsukazu Mihara: IC in a Sunflower

ゴムのいらない子供たち

Keep those Condoms Away from Our Kids

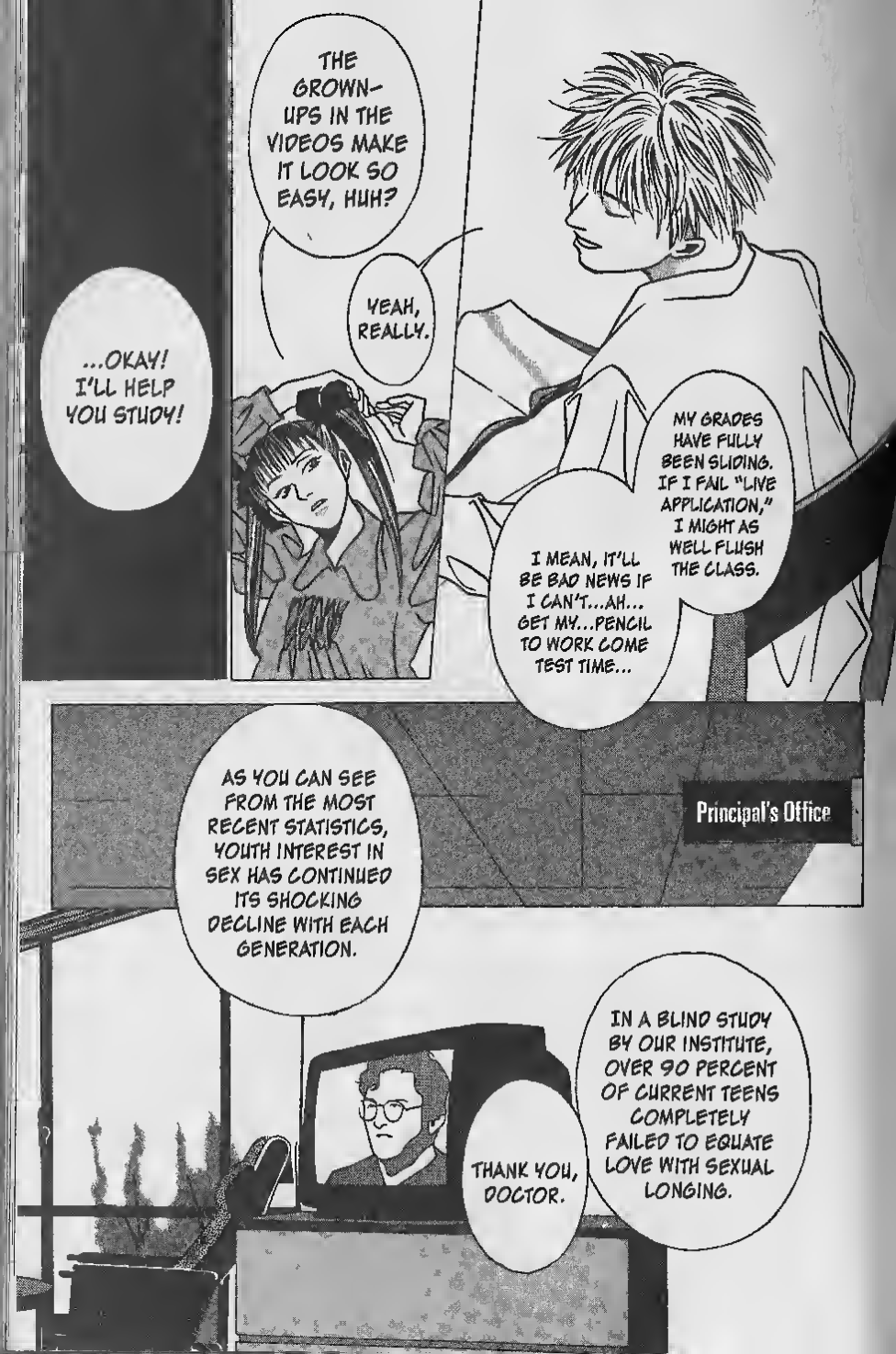
IRORI, YOUR OLD MAN STILL HAS SOME WORK TO GRIND OUT, SO...
...HOW ABOUT HEADING UP TO YOUR ROOM, ALL RIGHT?
YEAH, OKAY... THEN CAN I BORROW A MAG?
The October issue of face
IRORI.
JUST PROMISE ME THAT YOU'LL LOOK AT THE PICTORIALS TOO. DON'T JUST READ THE ARTICLES, OK?
I HEAR YOU DIDN'T EVEN WATCH THAT LAST VIDEO, IS THAT RIGHT?
I TELL YOU WHAT, YOUR MOTHER'S WORRIED SICK AND I--
YEAH, YEAH.
I GET IT ALREADY, OKAY? NIGHT, DAD...

TEN YEARS HAVE ALREADY PASSED SINCE THE GOVERNMENT LIFTED THE BAN ON PORNOGRAPHY.
PORNO SALES HAVE FALLEN EVERY YEAR SINCE. THE SEX INDUSTRY'S HURTIN' FOR CERTAIN...

Snicker snicker
YEAH, YOU SAID THAT LAST TIME, TOO, KARUTO.
DOESN'T IT SEEM LIKE THEY ALWAYS PILE ON THE VIDEOS ON TUESDAYS?
SIXTH PERIOD VIDEOS SUCK, HUH?
HEY, HEY, WHAT IS THIS, VACATION? CLASS STARTS IN LESS THAN FIVE MINUTES!
GRAB YOUR THINGS AND GET DOWN TO THE A.V. ROOM. SNAP TO IT!
YES, TEACHER
... YEAH?
HEY, IRORI... I WANNA SHOW YOU SOME PLACE COOL TODAY. LET'S GO ON A FUCKIN' ADVENTURE.
I SHOULDN'T NEED TO SAY THIS, BUT TODAY'S CLIPS WILL DEFINITELY BE COVERED ON THE TEST, PEOPLE...
Ugh, barf!
That's messed up!

SEX IS AN EXPRESSION OF LOVE...
.....
...OH.
MMM...
IRORI, YOU UNDERSTAND, DON'T YOU?
OOH.
OH.
IRORI, YOU UNDERSTAND, DON'T YOU?
OOHMMM.

IRORI-PIIIIE!
ARE YOU STILL STUDYING? C'MON, WALK ME HOME!
UMM...
Ditch Karuta!
It's cute, huh?
HEY, TOYOMARU...
WHAT?... YOU DON'T WANT TO WALK HOME WITH ME?
NO, NO, IT'S JUST... THAT TEST TOMORROW AND, YOU KNOW...


THE GROWN-UPS IN THE VIDEOS MAKE IT LOOK SO EASY, HUH?
YEAH, REALLY.
...OKAY! I'LL HELP YOU STUDY!
MY GRADES HAVE FULLY BEEN SLIDING. IF I FAIL "LIVE APPLICATION," I MIGHT AS WELL FLUSH THE CLASS.
I MEAN, IT'LL BE BAD NEWS IF I CAN'T...AH... GET MY...PENCIL TO WORK COME TEST TIME...
Principal's Office
AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THE MOST RECENT STATISTICS, YOUTH INTEREST IN SEX HAS CONTINUED ITS SHOCKING DECLINE WITH EACH GENERATION.
IN A BLIND STUDY BY OUR INSTITUTE, OVER 90 PERCENT OF CURRENT TEENS COMPLETELY FAILED TO EQUATE LOVE WITH SEXUAL LONGING.
THANK YOU, DOCTOR.

...BUT FOR LACK OF AN IMMEDIATE AND PRECISE MEDICAL SOLUTION...
OF COURSE, IT'S DIFFICULT TO SAY WITH ANY CERTAINTY, BUT THE LEADING HYPOTHESIS IS THAT THE DIMINISHED SEX DRIVE THAT WE'RE WITNESSING IS A SIDE-EFFECT OF THE ANTI-AIDS VACCINE WIDELY ADMINISTERED 20 YEARS AGO.
I UNDER-STAND...
IN FACT, THESE CONCLUSIONS ARE WELL IN LINE WITH COMMON KNOWLEDGE. THE QUESTION THE PUBLIC NEEDS THE ANSWER TO IS, WHAT IS THE ROOT CAUSE?
...THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN COUNTER MEASURES IN THE FORM OF MANDATORY SEX INDOCTRINATION PROGRAMS IN ALL SCHOOLS, BEGINNING IN EARLY CHILDHOOD.
...HOW IS IT, IRORI?
I THINK... I'M DOING EXACTLY LIKE THEY SAID... UM...

SHOW YA LOVE!!!
UM.... YEAH...
Ayo!
YOU GONNA BE MUCH LONGER? C'MON, IRORI, LET'S HEAD, HUH?
YEAH, RIGHT! YOU LIKE IT! LIKE, YOU WANT ME TO TOUCH YOUR BOOOOOBS? YOU LIKE IT?
Doo! Doo! Feels sooo goood!
HEY! YOU KIDS!
WHAT TH-- TOYOMARU?! WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU DOING?!
GET THE FUCK OFF HIM! GIT! C'MON, IRORI.
LEAVE US ALONE!!! WE'RE STUDYING!
Ka... Karuta...

COME WITH ME! WE'RE MARCHING TO THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE RIGHT NOW!
My pants!
WHAT DO YOU THINK... YOU'RE DOING IN HERE?!
Baby old boy.
OH, THE PRINCIPAL! EXCELLENT TIMING!
IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?
Slid. off.
NO HARM DONE. WHY DON'T YOU KIDS HEAD ON HOME?
But principal!
IT'S JUST AS I'VE SAID! ALL THIS DEPRAVED SEX EDUCATION DOES IS ENCOURAGE IMMORAL BEHAVIOR!
JUST NOW, I CAUGHT THESE CHILDREN SHAMELESSLY... EXPERIMENTING...
Ummm... may I put on my pants?
YES, YES, I UNDER-STAND...
YES, SIR!
WHISTLE

I'VE NEVER APPROVED OF THESE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS! IT'S WRONG! MORALLY, ETHICALLY WRONG!
HAVE YOU OBSERVED THE FACES OF THE CHILDREN WHILE THEY ARE WATCHING THE VIDEOS?
THEY'RE EXPRESSION-LESS. EVERY ONE. THEY SIMPLY DON'T COMPREHEND IT.
PERVERT BOOKS, PORNOGRAPHIC VIDEOS AND THE LIKE TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KIDS... ABOMINABLE...
THINK OF IT THIS WAY. WE LOOKED AT DIRTY PICTURES WHEN WE WERE KIDS TOO. WE JUST HAD TO KEEP IT HIDDEN.
PRINCIPAL
HA HA
IS IT WRONG TO TRY TO HELP THEM UNDERSTAND SOMETHING SO BASIC TO OUR SURVIVAL?
MY SON, TOO...HE'S 23 THIS YEAR. HE'S GOTTEN MARRIED AND IS DOING VERY WELL... I EVEN HAVE A GRANDSON...

IT WAS THROUGH ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION, OF COURSE...
.....
THE TIMES HAVE CHANGED, YOU SEE IN THE FUTURE...
...PLEASE REMEMBER THAT
C.D.D.
IRORI? HON? I'M COMING IN, OKAY?

I BROUGHT YOU A LITTLE EVENING and SNACK, tea VEGAS BANQUET COOKIES...
ALL RIGHT!
BRING 'EM IN! BRING 'EM IN!
THESE'RE SO GOOD! I SWEAR, I COULD EAT 'EM UNTIL I DIE...
HEY, IRORI? ...WHEN YOU LOOK AT THESE MAGAZINES...
DO YOU, UM...DO YOU GET JUST A BIT...
SAFE SEX THE LIFE YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN

REALLY ?!
I MEAN, THAT'S WONDERFUL! ...I ADMIT, I DO GET A LITTLE WORRIED... JUST A...LITTLE SOMETIMES...
SOOO... YOU'VE GOT A TEST TOMORROW, RIGHT? DO YOUR BEST, OKAY?
A Woman
ke's my woman
ittle L.A Wom
.....
コキ
OH YEAH! YEAH... I MEAN, KINDA...I GET ALL...AH... YOU KNOW... HAPPY AND...
I FEEL KIND OF... AH... WEIRD, YOU KNOW...

OKAY LET'S GO THROUGH THIS...
Let's go, Miss Patricia.
3-X (2d) PRACTICE DUMMY
IRORI!!
MR. IRORI MIYAWAKI, GET YOUR ASS OUT HERE!
HEY, IRORI!

KARUTO? WHAT THE HELL DO YOU WANT? IT'S LATE...
C'MON MAN! I TOLD YOU AT LUNCH! WE'RE GOIN' ON A FUCKIN' ADVENTURE-- LET'S GO!
DUDE, HOW COULD YOU FORGET ?!
AN AD-- YEAH... YEAH, I GUESS... WHERE?
AN ABANDONED BUILDING IN F SECTOR.
YOU MEAN WHERE ALL THOSE OLD CRUSTY HOTELS ARE?
NO FUCKING WAY! ANCIENT SHIT HEAPS HAVE A WAY OF CREEPING ME OUT!
DUDE, IT'S FINE!
GO YOURSELF, KARUTO!

HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT, WON'T HE? ...HONEY? ...IRORI'S ALL RIGHT, ISN'T HE...?
YEAH... ..... YEAH...
LOVE IS FOR SEX. SEX IS THE FINAL EXPRESSION OF LOVE.
LOOKS LIKE IRORI'S BEEN HITTING THE BOOKS HARD LATELY, HUH?
YES...HE HAS...
IT IS THE ONLY ACT, THE CAUSE AND THE MEANS, WHICH PHYSICALLY BINDS A MAN TO A WOMAN.
CABIN
Baby you can drive my car! And baby I'll ...ve you.
Let's go home.
Beep beep beep beeeep!

Look, I'm pet-
So what?
IT'S DARK IN HERE...
Hiccup...
GET OFF ME, HOMO.
Hiccup...
SERIOUSLY, KARUTO. I THINK WE SHOULD GO BACK H- HOME.
Sniff
ARE YOU FUCKING CRYING?!

AAAH!
AYEEK!
Oooh shhiiiit!
I FUCKING STEPPED ON SOMETHING! I STEPPED ON SOMETHING JUST NOW!
Shit!
GOD DAMN! WHAT WAS THAT SOUND?!
...OH MY GOD. WE'RE RETARDED. IT'S A... ISN'T THAT A CONDOM?
UH... OH YEAH... IS THIS THAT BALLOON GUYS... AH, PUT OVER THEIR DICKS?
PRETTY SURE...

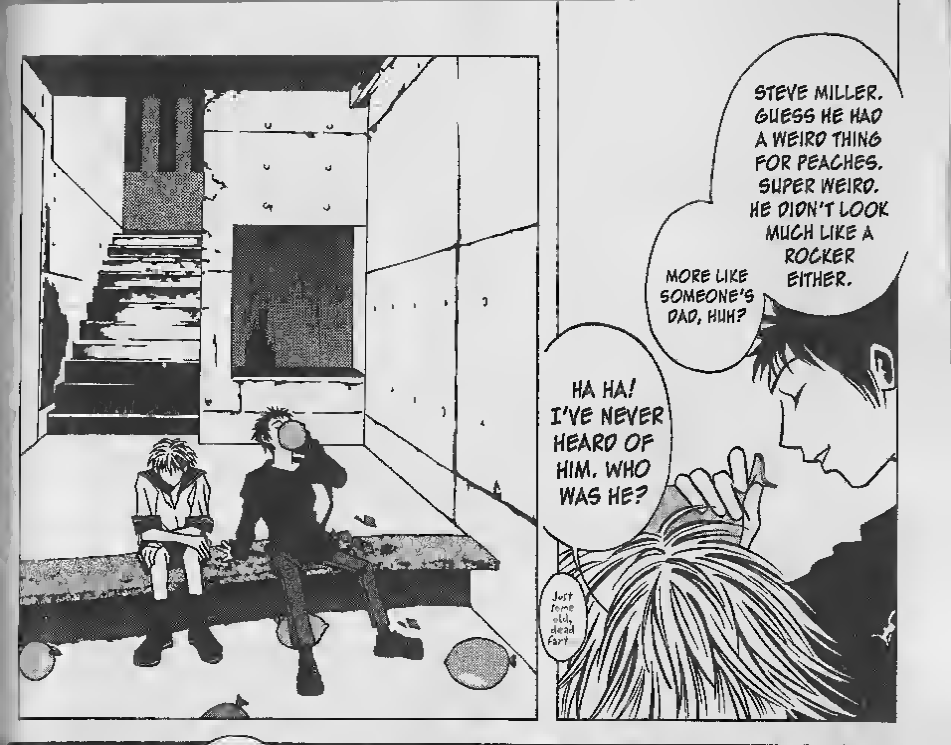
DON'T KNOW. NO CLUE AT ALL.
...L--
WHAT I DON'T GET IS...YOU HAVE SEX TO MAKE BABIES, RIGHT? THEN WHY ON EARTH DO THEY NEED THIS...
.....
LOVE, I THINK. I THINK I'VE HEARD THAT...
YOU'RE DIFFERENT, AREN'T YOU, HONEY? YOU'RE NOT LIKE THE OTHER KIDS; YOU UNDERSTAND, DON'T YOU?
WHEN YOU LOVE A GIRL A LOT, AND IT'S NOT YOUR MOM, YOU... HOLD EACH OTHER...

YOU'RE A BIG FUCKIN' NERD, AREN'T YOU...
I feel like I'm listening to a talking textbook
YOU LOVE A GIRL, SO YOU HOLD HER? WHAT KINDA GOOEY PUKE PATTY IS THAT?!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANY PART OF THAT SENTENCE AND I DON'T GIVE A SHIT.
...I ADMIT, I DO GET A LITTLE WORRIED... SOMETIMES...
I TELL YOU WHAT, YOUR MOTHER'S WORRIED SICK!!! WORRIED SICK!!!
I DO.
I GET IT. I'M NOT LIKE YOU. I UNDERSTAND.
.....!
SHOVE
BULL-FUCKING-SHIT!!!

I'M BLEEDING...
IRORI...?
DID I... DID YOU GET CUT?

AFTER ALL, YOU'RE A SMART BOY, IRORI. YOU UNDERSTAND, DON'T YOU? YOU UNDERSTAND, DON'T YOU? YOU UNDERSTAND... DON'T YOU?
IRORI, LOOK...
GEEZ, DON'T CRY. LOOK, I'M SORRY.
I WAS...I WAS WRONG. JUST STOP CRYING, OKAY?

THE THING IS... I FIGURED KARUTO WAS PROBABLY RIGHT.


STEVE MILLER. GUESS HE HAD A WEIRD THING FOR PEACHES. SUPER WEIRD. HE DIDN'T LOOK MUCH LIKE A ROCKER EITHER.
MORE LIKE SOMEONE'S DAD, HUH?
HA HA! I'VE NEVER HEARD OF HIM. WHO WAS HE?
Just some old, dead fart

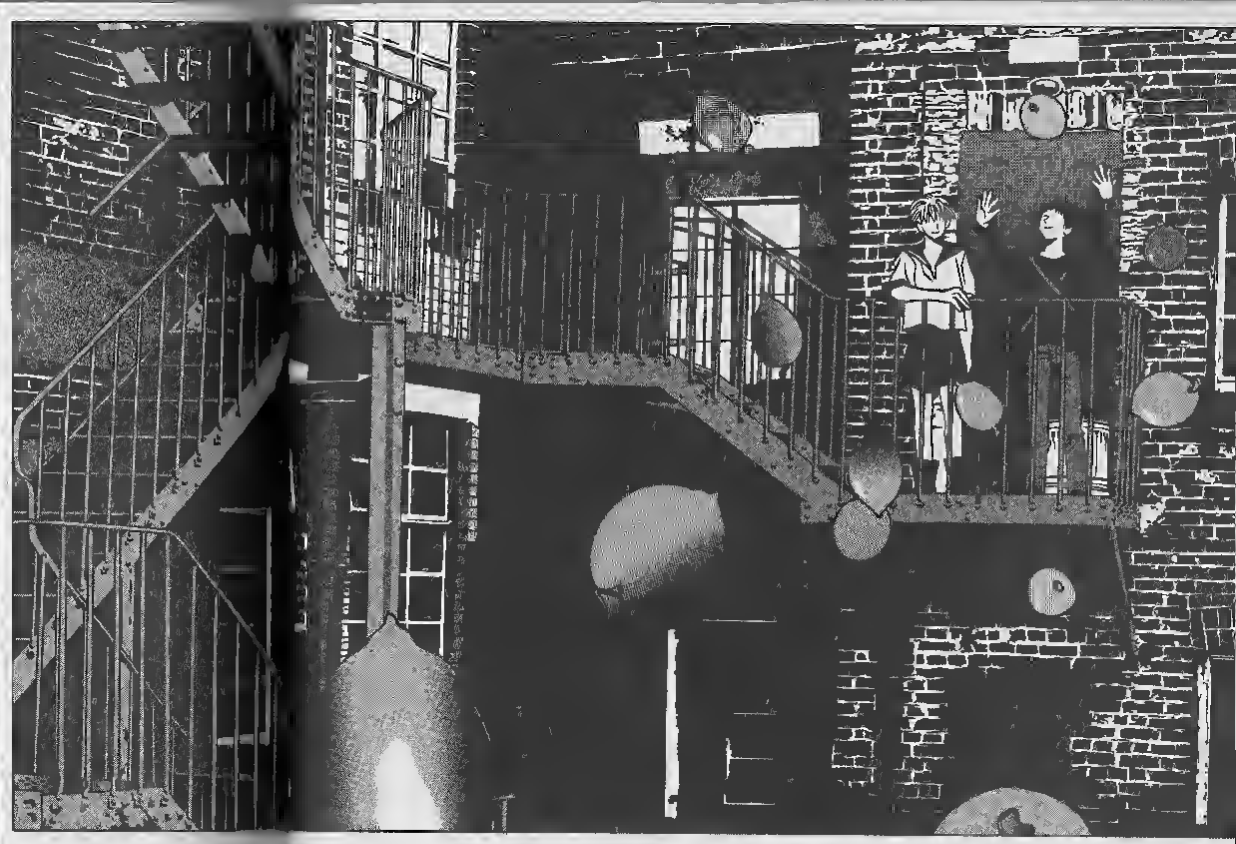
...HEY, KARUTO...
I'M SORRY, OKAY?

I'VE BEEN PRETENDING TO... GET EVERYTHING TO KEEP MY MOM FROM WORRYING SO DAMN MUCH, Y'KNOW...
I GUESS I JUST STARTED TO...
IT'S COOL. FUCK IT.

BLOOW
Golden sex cherub?
WHEN IT COMES TO LOVE, SEX, WHATEVER, GO AHEAD AND TELL THE GROWN-UPS WHAT THEY WANNA HEAR. BE THEIR... AH...AH...LITTLE GOLDEN SEX CHERUB.
BUT YOU NEVER HAVE TO BULLSHIT YOUR FRIENDS, YOU KNOW?
...YEAH.

"THE RESULTS HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGING. ACCORDING TO PARENTS, THEIR CHILDREN HAVE TAKEN AN INCREASED INTEREST IN SEX SINCE THE INDOCTRINATION PROGRAMS BEGAN."

"IN CONJUNCTION WITH THIS NEWS REPORT, WE HELD A POLL OF PARENTS WITH SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN."



"THIS IS JUST THE FIRST STEP TOWARD WINNING THE WAR ON INFERTILITY."

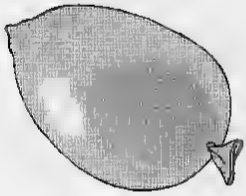
"THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN COUNTER MEASURES IN THE FORM OF MANDATORY SEX INDOCTRINATION PROGRAMS IN ALL SCHOOLS, BEGINNING IN EARLY CHILDHOOD."

"WE HOPE TO SEE RESULTS SOON ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY."

GOOD MORNING.
Lick what? You don't even have one!
IRORI-PIE! GOOD LUCK ON THE TEST TODAY!
I HOPE THE TUTORING HELPS!
HEY SPAZ, LICK ME, TOO. I NEED HELP VOMITING.
KARUTO!
GOOD MORNING, PRINCIPAL.
Thanks for giving us a break yesterday.
You're the slut!
You don't even know what it means, bitch!

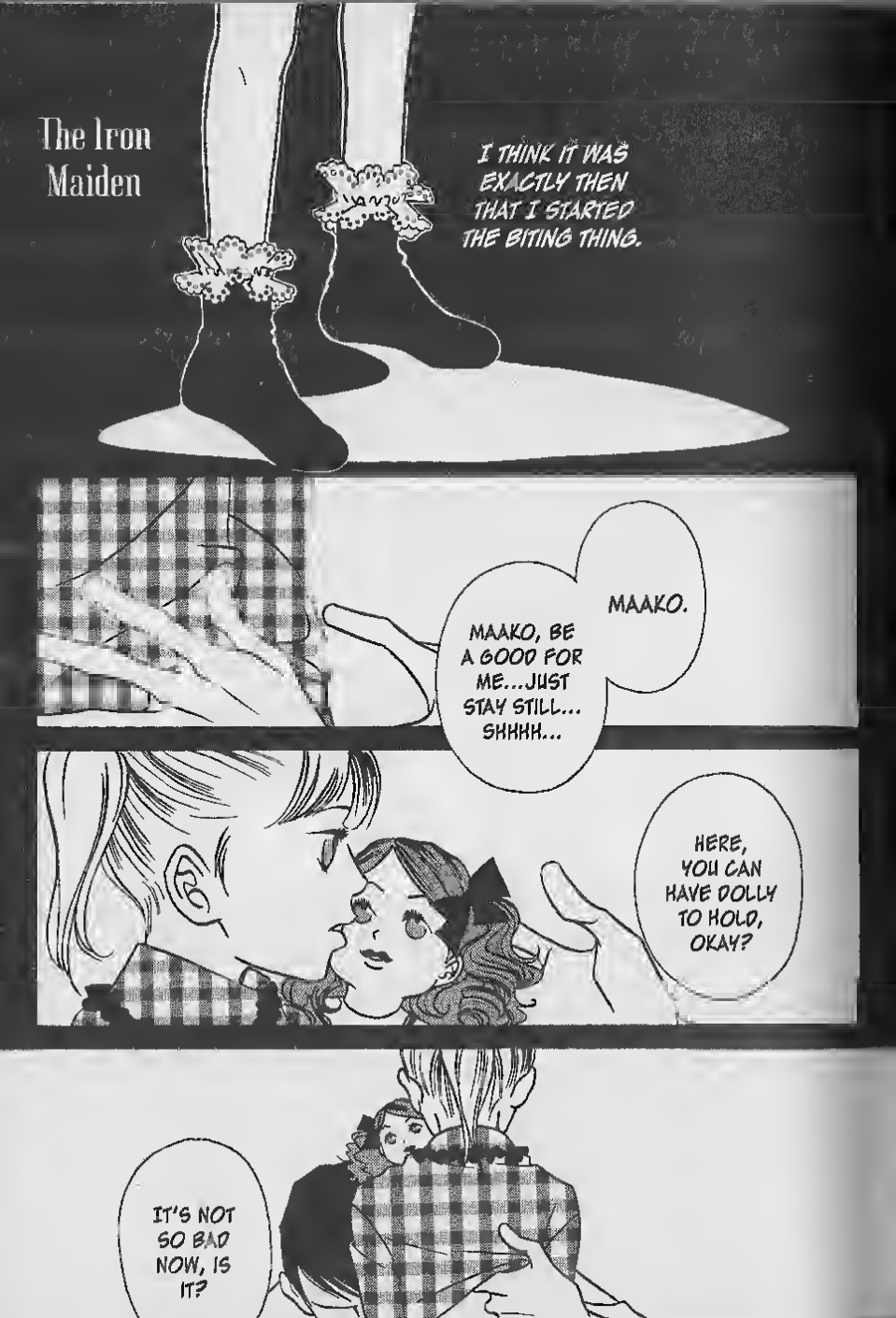
HOW ARE CLASSES COMING ALONG FOR YOU?
DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE A HANDLE ON EVERYTHING?
...YOU BET!

CURRENTLY, IN THE YEAR 20XX, SEX CRIMES HAVE BEEN REDUCED TO STATISTICAL INSIGNIFICANCE. DESPITE THE FACT THAT ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION IS AT A RECORD HIGH, THE BIRTHRATE IS THE LOWEST IN RECORDED HISTORY AND FALLING.



END

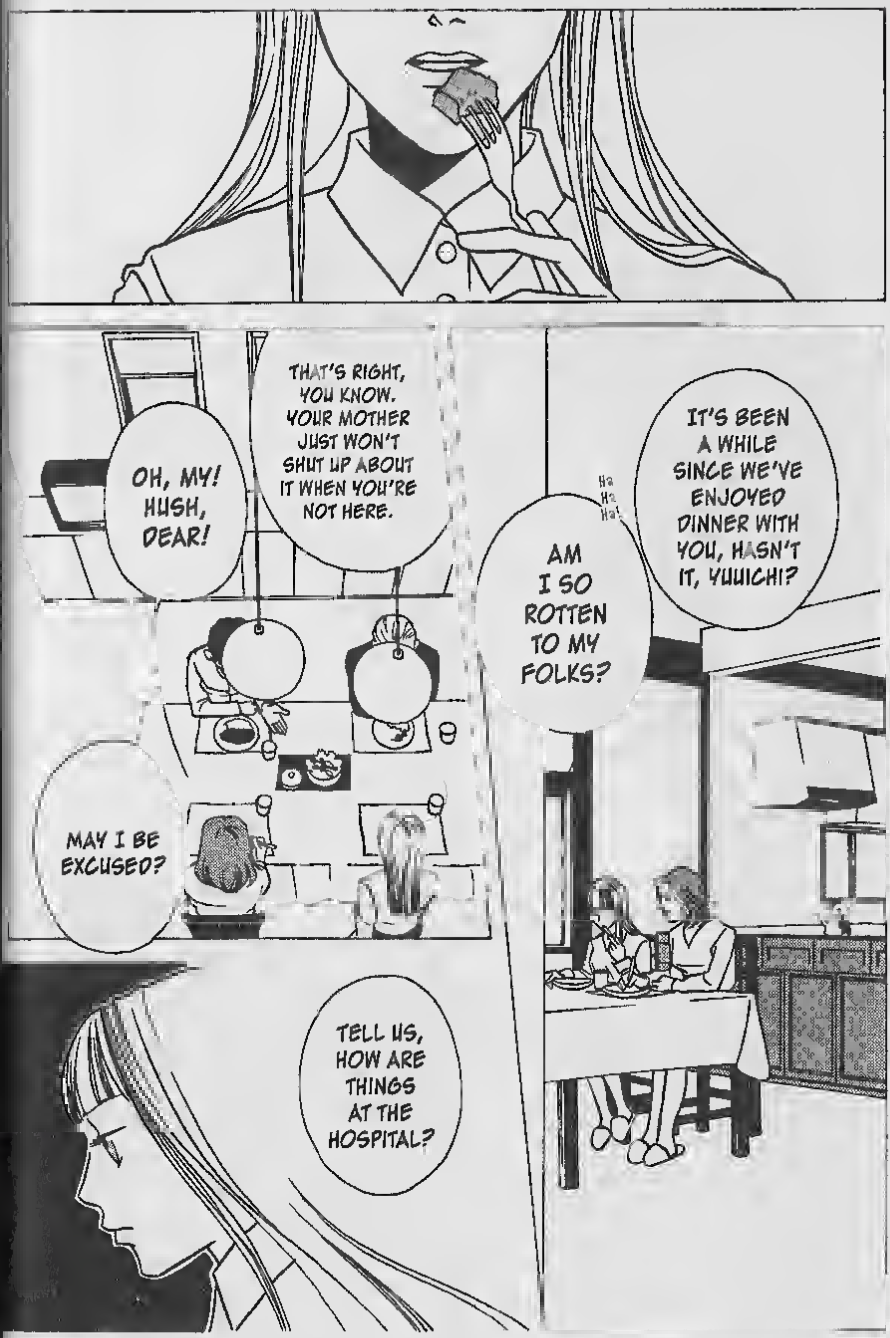
Mitsukazu Mihara: IC in a Sunflower

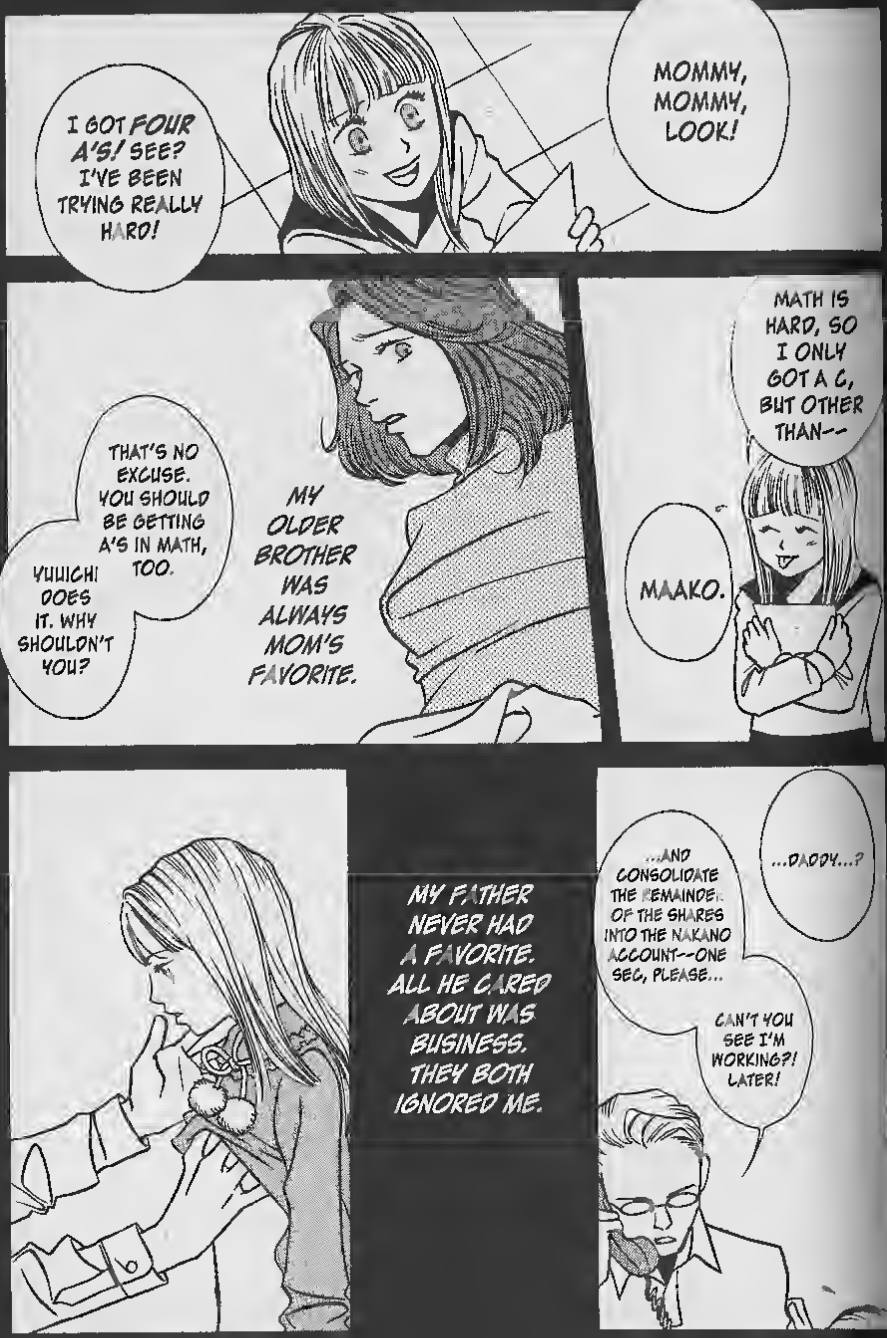

I THINK IT WAS EXACTLY THEN THAT I STARTED THE BITING THING.
MAAKO.
MAAKO, BE A GOOD FOR ME...JUST STAY STILL... SHHHH...
HERE, YOU CAN HAVE DOLLY TO HOLD, OKAY?
IT'S NOT SO BAD NOW, IS IT?

THE COMPULSION IS SO STRONG, THAT ONCE IT COMES OVER ME, I ABSOLUTELY CANNOT CONTROL IT.

リッサの鉄の柩

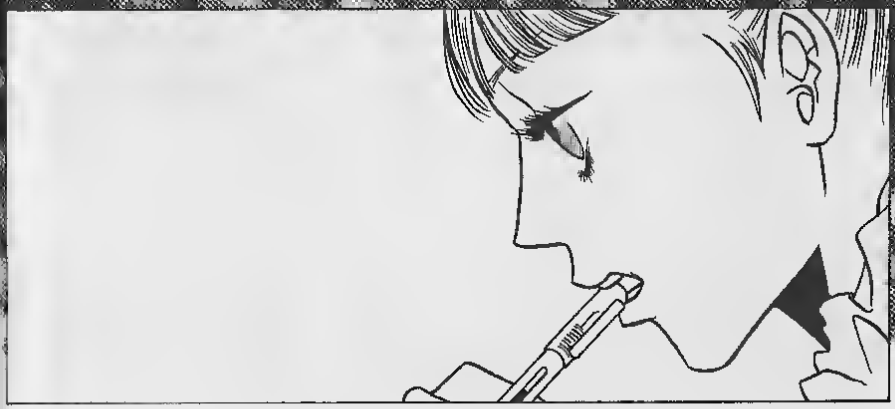
The Iron Maiden


IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE'VE ENJOYED DINNER WITH YOU, HASN'T IT, YUUICHI?
Ha Ha Ha!
AM I SO ROTTEN TO MY FOLKS?
THAT'S RIGHT, YOU KNOW. YOUR MOTHER JUST WON'T SHUT UP ABOUT IT WHEN YOU'RE NOT HERE.
OH, MY! HUSH, DEAR!
MAY I BE EXCUSED?
TELL US, HOW ARE THINGS AT THE HOSPITAL?

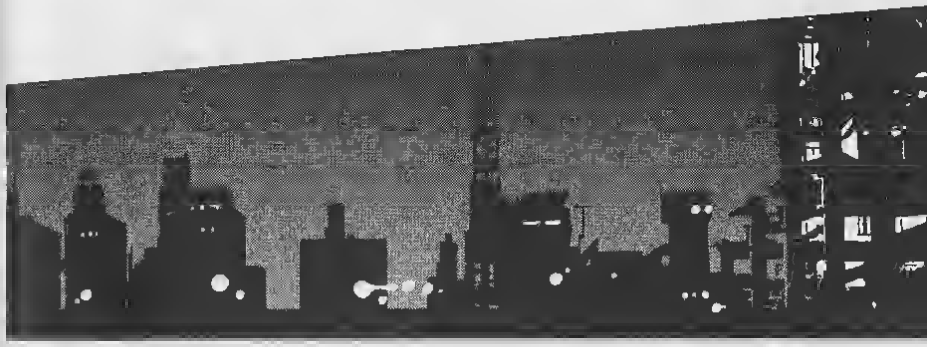

MOMMY, MOMMY, LOOK!
I GOT FOUR A'S! SEE? I'VE BEEN TRYING REALLY HARD!
MATH IS HARD, SO I ONLY GOT A C, BUT OTHER THAN--
MAAKO.
MY OLDER BROTHER WAS ALWAYS MOM'S FAVORITE.
THAT'S NO EXCUSE. YOU SHOULD BE GETTING A'S IN MATH, TOO.
YUUICHI DOES IT. WHY SHOULDN'T YOU?
MY FATHER NEVER HAD A FAVORITE. ALL HE CARED ABOUT WAS BUSINESS. THEY BOTH IGNORED ME.
...DADDY...?
...AND CONSOLIDATE THE REMAINDER OF THE SHARES INTO THE NAKANO ACCOUNT--ONE SEC, PLEASE...
CAN'T YOU SEE I'M WORKING?! LATER!

MEANWHILE, BIG BROTHER EVERYONE'S BIG HERO, WAS ACTUALLY A BIG OL' HYPOCRITICAL BASTARD.
MISS OOHASHI!
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN FINISH THESE FOR ME IN TIME FOR THE ONE O'CLOCK MEETING?
YES, MR. FUKAE.

FUKAE, GOT A MINUTE?
I'M COUNTING ON YOU AGAIN, MISS OOHASHI!
YOU NEVER COMPLAIN. YOU SIMPLY WORK QUIETLY AND GET EVERYTHING DONE; IT REALLY HELPS, YOU KNOW.
MISS SUMIDA
HEY, MAAKO? UM, THE SECOND OFF DAY THAT'S COMING UP, CAN I HAVE IT?
I NEVER SAY WHAT I'M REALLY THINKING. FOR SOME REASON, I SIMPLY CAN'T.
I HAVEN'T HAD A DAY OFF IN FOREVER...
I GUESS, BUT...
PLEEAASE?? THERE'S THIS THING AND I REALLY CAN'T GET OUT OF IT...
REALLY, I'M LIKE, SO SORRY--

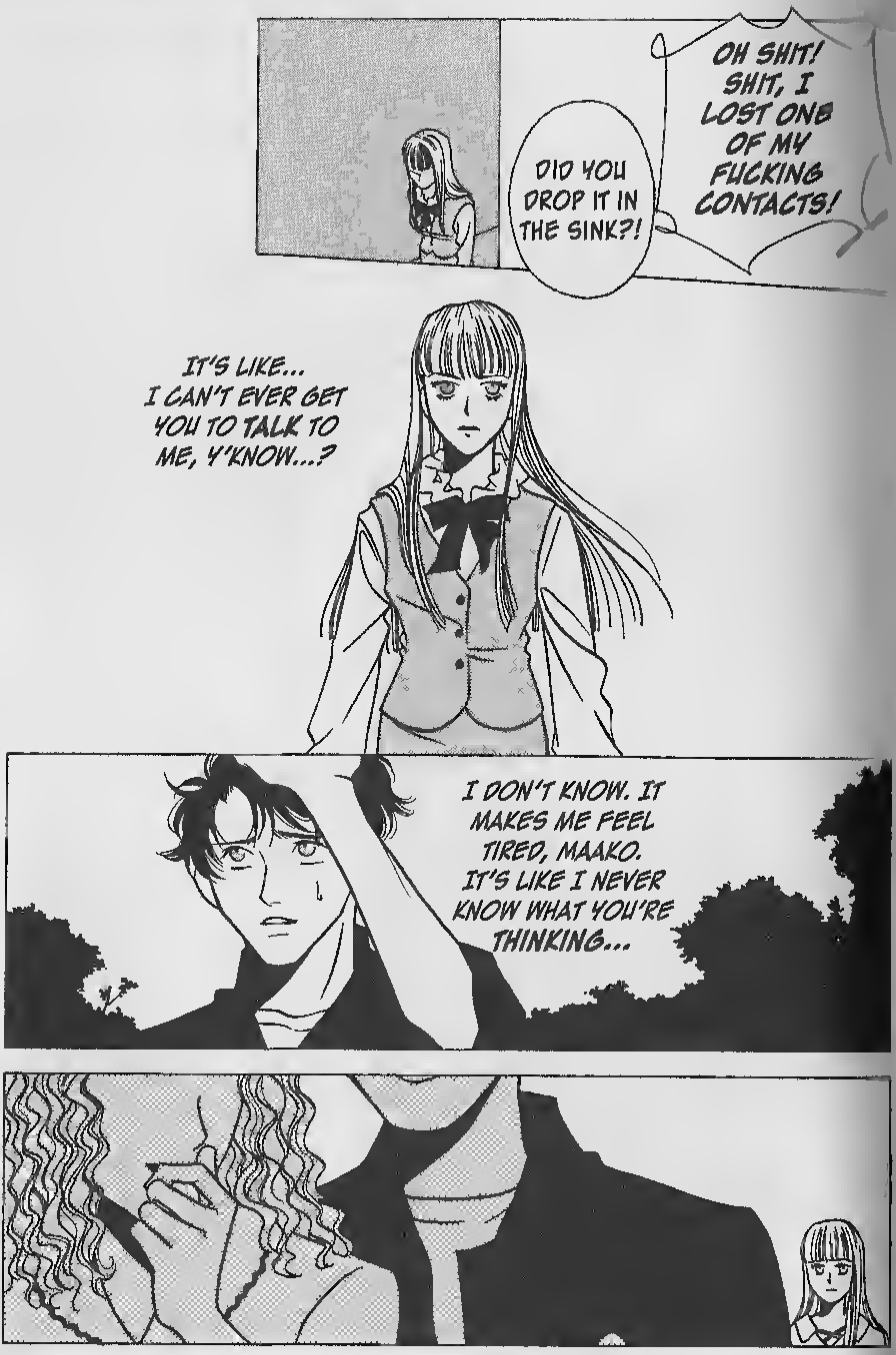


IT'S TIMES LIKE THESE THAT MY BITING HABIT CROPS UP.

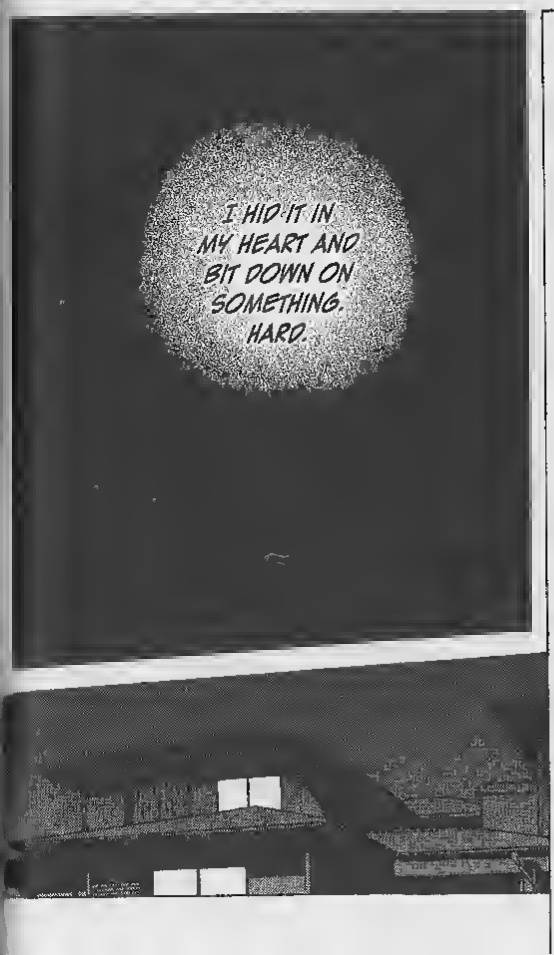


OKAY THEN... TRY NOT TO WORK TOO LATE, OKAY?
しうせ
REALLY? OKAY...
NO, THANK YOU, I'M JUST FINISHING UP...
OH YEAH, YOUNGER GUYS ARE HOT, THEY--
WHAT?! ARE YOU A CRADLE ROBBER? YOU'RE SO BAD!
Oh definitely
THEY ALWAYS HAD LENTY OF PLAY-TIME.
CLICK

I'VE GOT A DATE WITH MR. FUKAE, SO--
ON TOP OF THAT, NEXT FRIDAY...
YOU'RE KIDDING! I MEAN, I ADMIT HE IS ONE OF THE BEST-LOOKING GUYS IN OUR DEPARTMENT, BUT SO SHY...
HE'S REALLY CUTE, THOUGH. YOU KNOW, ALL I HAVE TO DO IS TOUCH HIS SHOULDER AND HE TURNS RED AS A TOMATO!
TEE HEE HEE HEE
Oh my GAWD!
MARK MY WORDS: THAT BOY IS MARRIAGE MATERIAL!


OH SHIT! SHIT, I LOST ONE OF MY FUCKING CONTACTS!
DID YOU DROP IT IN THE SINK?!
IT'S LIKE... I CAN'T EVER GET YOU TO TALK TO ME, Y'KNOW...?
I DON'T KNOW. IT MAKES ME FEEL TIRED, MAAKO. IT'S LIKE I NEVER KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING...

IT WAS ALWAYS LIKE THIS. THE GUYS I LIKED INVARIABLY GRAVITATED TOWARD THE CHIPPER, BUBBLE-HEAD GIRLS; BUT I WAS STILL THE ONE WHO LOVED THEM MORE...



PAT PUMP
PAT PUMP
PAT PUMP
I'M HOME...
OH, IT'S YOU. I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE YUUICHI...
MOMMY-- UM, CAN I TELL YOU SOMETHING?
SOME-TIMES, YUUICHI... DOES WEIRD THINGS...
HE, UM... HE PULLS... UP MY SHIRT AND--
MAAKO.

EVERYTHING I FELT WAS NEGATED BY THOSE WORDS. EVERYTHING I WAS... WAS REJECTED.
DON'T YOU HAVE SOME HOMEWORK TO DO?
QUIT STALLING AND GO DO IT.
AND THAT WAS THE LAST TIME...
MISS OOHASHI.
...I EVER TOLD ANYONE HOW I REALLY FELT.

I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU. ARE YOU FREE FOR LUNCH?
MR. FUKAE...
YES.
I FIGURED HE'D ASK ME ABOUT SUMIDA.
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY THIS--- ...AH...
I WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE IT IF...IF YOU WOULD CONSIDER... AH...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
MAY I HAVE YOUR PERMISSION TO COURT YOU?

SHE DID INVITE ME OUT, BUT I DECLINED. MISS SUMIDA'S TYPE MAKES ME... UNCOMFORTABLE...
I PREFER A QUIET GIRL, LIKE YOU.
YOU'RE DATING MISS SUMIDA...
I THOUGHT...
IS THAT WHAT YOU HEARD? YES, AH...
THIS IS A DREAM... IT MUST BE...
...I CONFESS, I'VE BEEN IMPRESSED BY YOU... ACTUALLY QUITE TAKEN FOR A WHILE NOW.
THE TYPE WHO TAKES WORK SERIOUSLY. WHO'S NOT AFRAID OF A LITTLE OVERTIME...
ALL OF A SUDDEN, I THOUGHT I COULD SEE LIGHT BEHIND THE CLOUDS.
CAN I BELIEVE YOU?

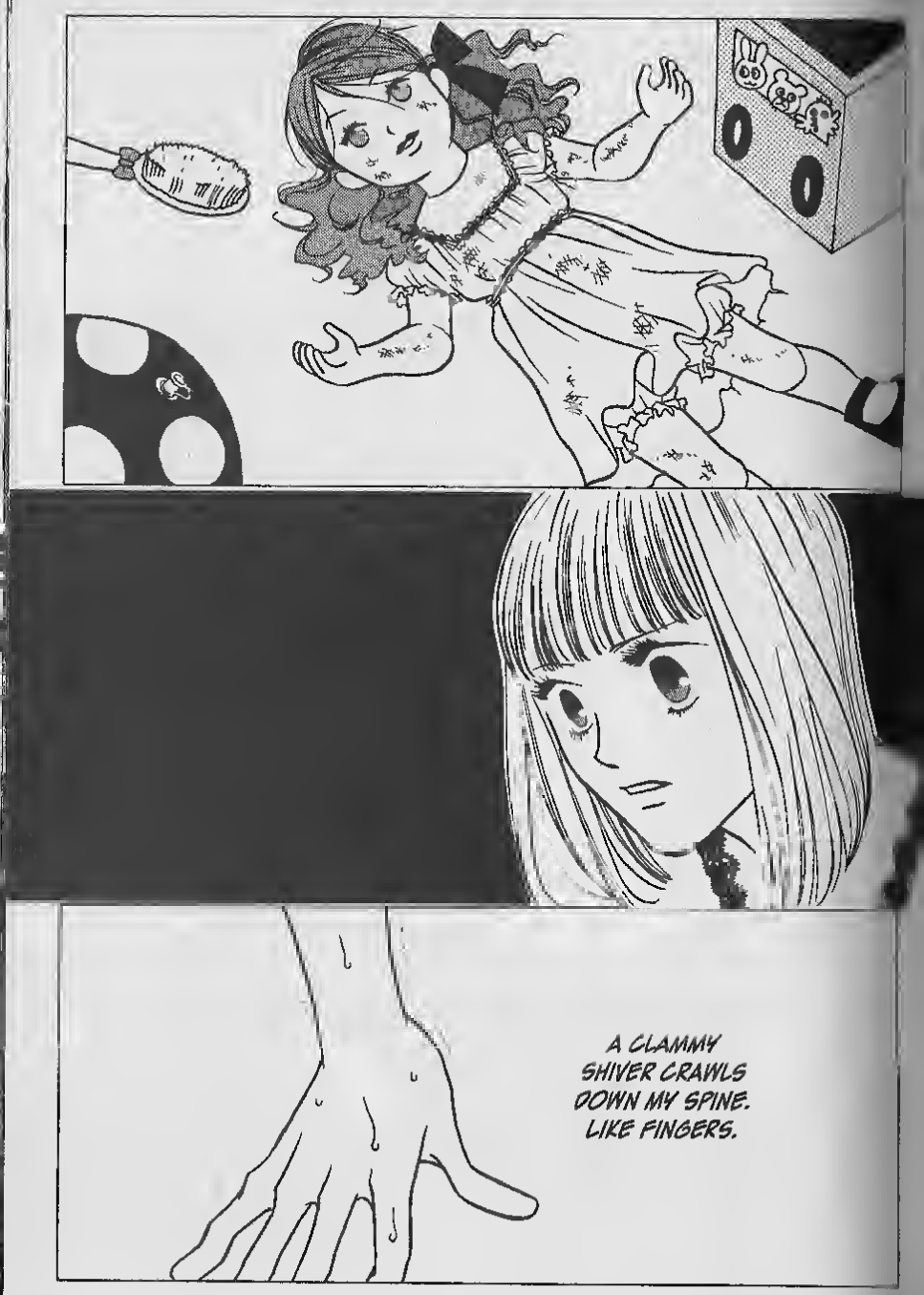
SINCE THEN, THINGS WENT SO WELL THAT IT WAS DOWNRIGHT SCARY.

IT'S INCREDIBLE HOW MUCH STRONGER YOU BECOME WHEN YOU HAVE SOMEONE YOU CAN TRUST.
DIDJA HEAR OOHASHI IS QUITTING TO GET MARRIED?
SO GROSS. MEN ALWAYS GO FOR THAT KIND OF GIRL; THE DULL LITTLE MOUSEY TYPES. HUHN.
BIG BROTHER WAS HAPPY FOR ME; JUST LIKE NOTHING HAD EVER HAPPENED.
CONGRATU-LATIONS, MAAKO. I'LL DEFINITELY HAVE TO MAKE TIME TO COME TO THE WEDDING.

HOW MANY MONTHS ARE YOU?
WE MADE OUR OWN FAMILY. WARM. KIND.
I'M HOME!
MY PARENTS WERE RELIEVED, OF COURSE. THEIR BURDEN WAS BEING LIFTED FROM THEM.
HEY, RYOUTA, SAY HE-WO TO PAPA! COME ON... "HE-WO, PAPA"... CAN YOU SAY IT?
WE MADE THE FAMILY I'D ALWAYS LONGED FOR.

WHERE I
BELONGED...

I FOUND SOME OF MOMMY'S OLD TOYS FOR YOU, RYOUTA. DO YOU WANNA PLAY WITH MOMMY'S OLD TOYS?
THESE TOYS BRING BACK MEMORIES...
THIS ONE; I KEPT ON PUNCHING OUT MY NAME, OVER AND OVER. HA- HA, I WORE OUT "MA" "A" AND "KO," SEE?
WHAT DO YOU THINK, SWEETIE?
YOU LIKE THEM?


A CLAMMY SHIVER CRAWLS DOWN MY SPINE. LIKE FINGERS.

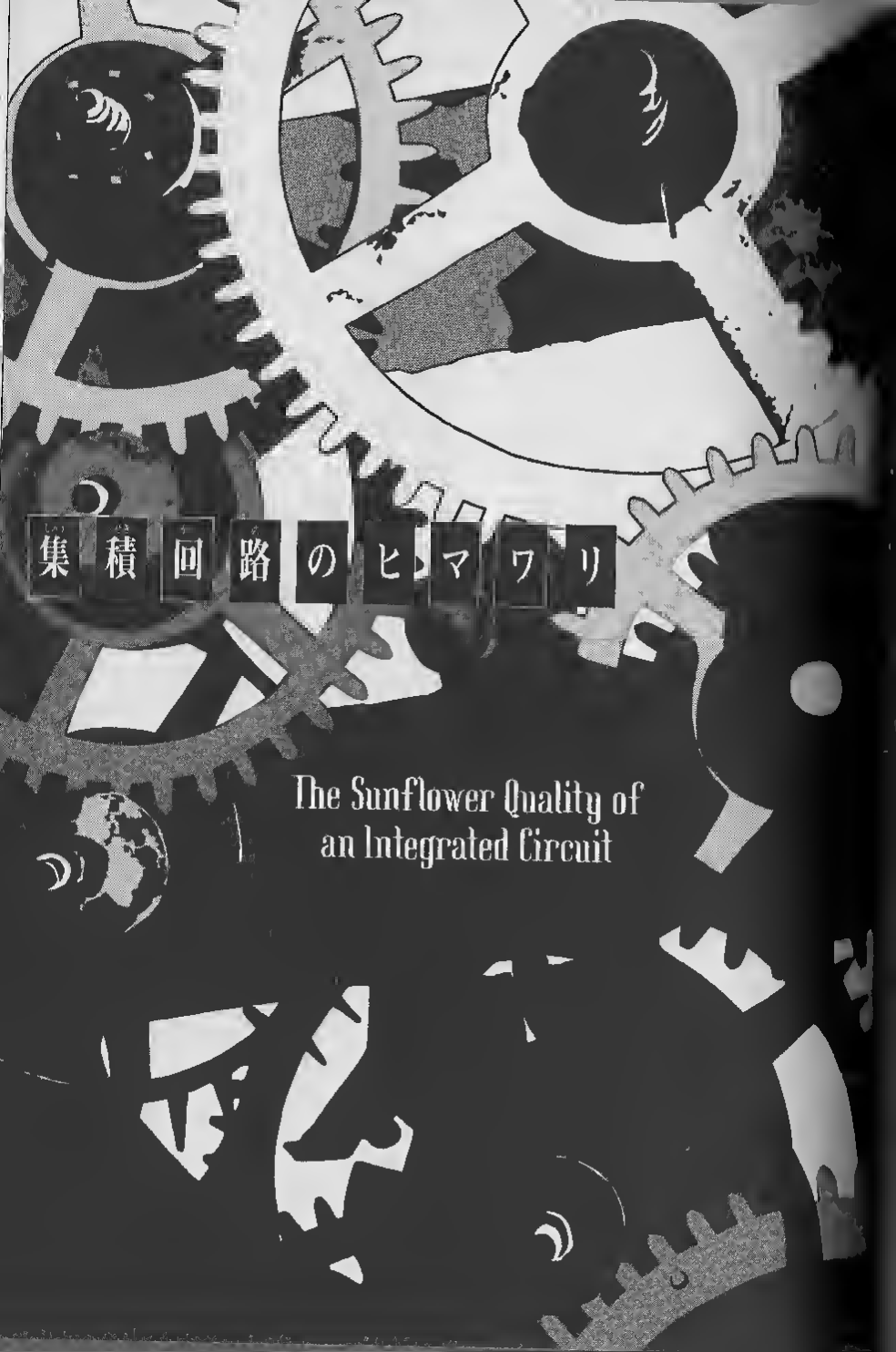
THIS BABY IS HAPPY. WHY ARE SOME BABIES LOVED, AND OTHERS [illegible]? I WAS NEVER LOVED. ONLY USED.
RYOUTA...

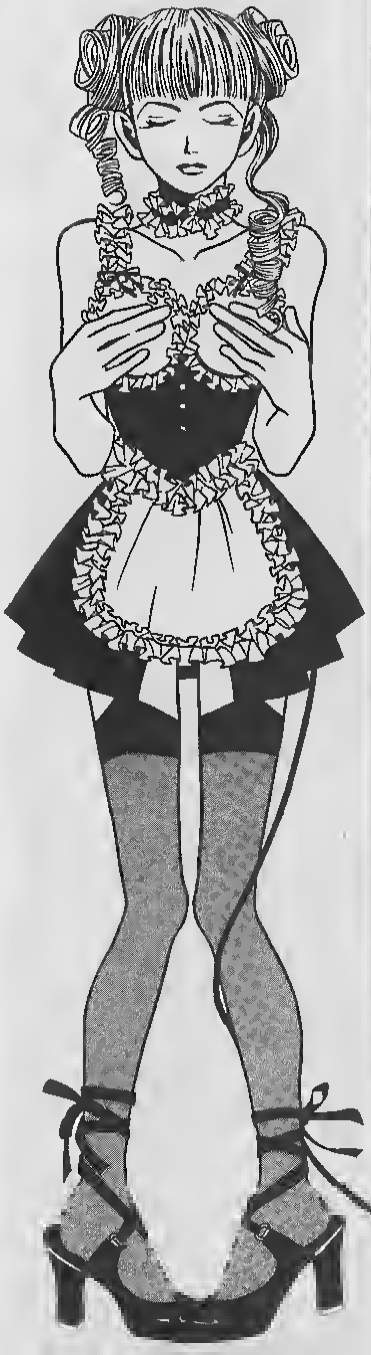
THE COMPULSION IS SO STRONG...

...ONCE IT COMES OVER ME, I ABSOLUTELY CANNOT CONTROL IT.

THE IRON MAIDEN IS A MEDIEVAL TORTURE DEVICE. IT'S A STANDING METAL COFFIN WITH A SPIKED LID. THE IRON LID IS SLOWLY CLOSED ON YOU, THE SPIKES BITING DEEPER INTO YOU, WHILE YOU SCREAM...AND BLEED...THEN DIE.

END


集積回路のヒマワリ
The Sunflower Quality of
an Integrated Circuit



Unquestioning, unfailing obedience to human commands

Revolutionary design, loaded with advanced materials and cutting edge cybernetic technology

Rock-bottom, factory- direct pricing plans

Completely customizable with an array of special options

(each sold separately)

OH SHUT UP! JUST SHUT THE FUCK UP!!!
I'M STILL YOUNG! I STILL HAVE A LIFE AND WHATEVER I WANT TO DO IS MY OWN FUCKING BUSINESS!!!
YOU'RE YOUNG. AND THAT GIVES YOU THE RIGHT TO RUN AROUND ON ME? I SHOULDN'T CARE?
OH HONEST TO G--I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT! JUST STOP IT!!!
Unquestioning, unfailing obedience...

I WANT YOU TO DO THE LAUNDRY AND CLEAN THE HOUSE. OH, AND TAKE CARE OF THE WEEDS IN THE YARD, TOO, PLEASE.
YES, MA'AM.
AT S.G., WE KNOW HOW BUSY YOU ARE, SO WE'RE CREATING A BETTER TOMORROW FOR THE MODERN HOUSEWIFE...AND WE'RE GIVING IT TO YOU TODAY!
SG
DON'T FORGET TO PICK UP THE GROCERIES!
YES, MA'AM!
VANILLA!
FUCK! I'D BE BETTER OFF ASKING THE TOASTER!! DO IT NOW!!!
VANILLA! YOU MECHANICAL BITCH, I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO LAY OUT MY SHOES!!

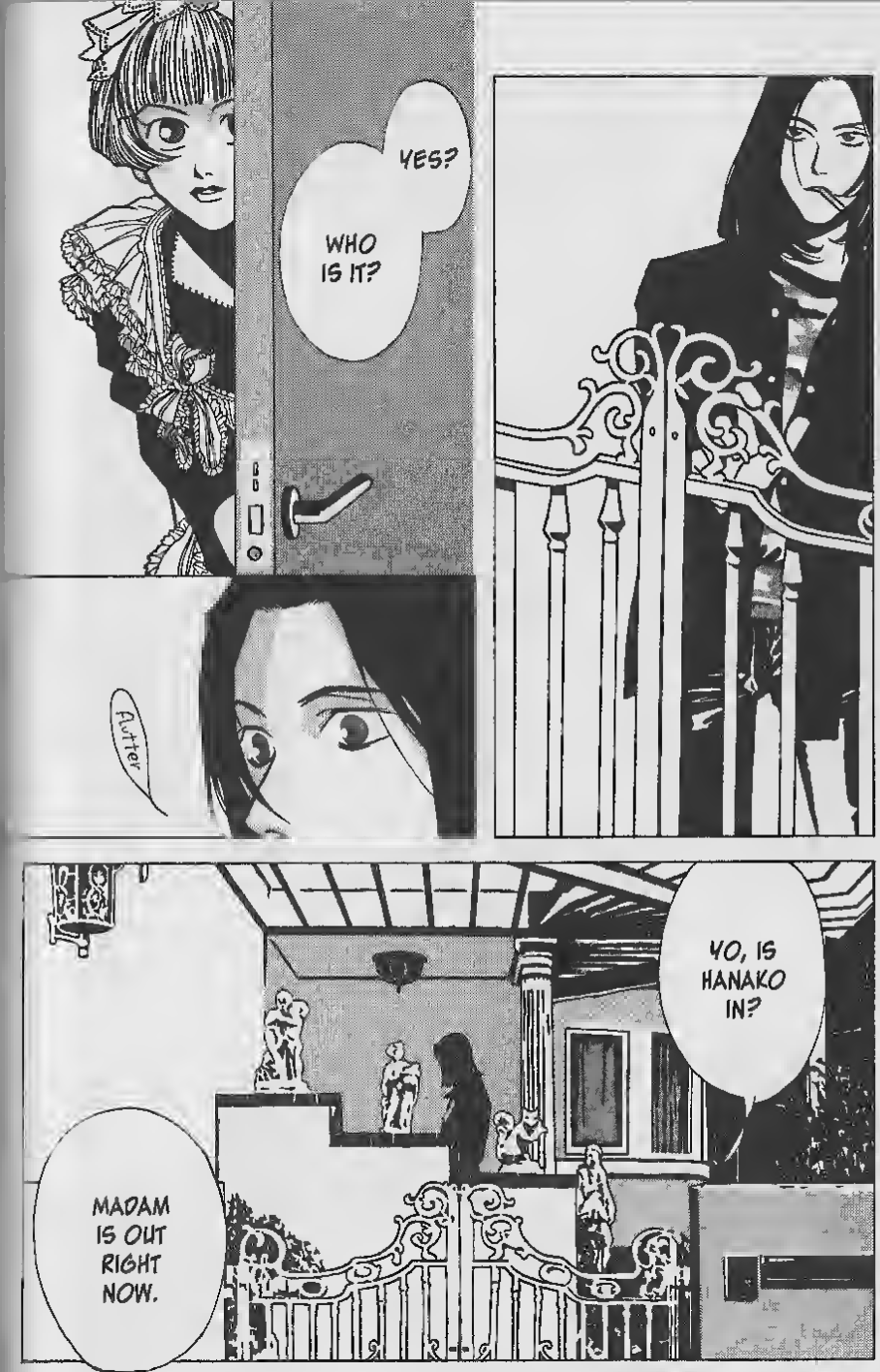
YOU'RE WORTHLESS. YOU'RE MAKING ME LATE!
SHIT... GET ME THE GOOD SHOES !!!
VANILLA!!!
YES, MA'AM, RIGHT AWAY...
WHAT HAPPENED HERE? IT LOOKS LIKE A THREE-RING CIRCUS CAME THROUGH...
GOOD MORNING, MASTER.

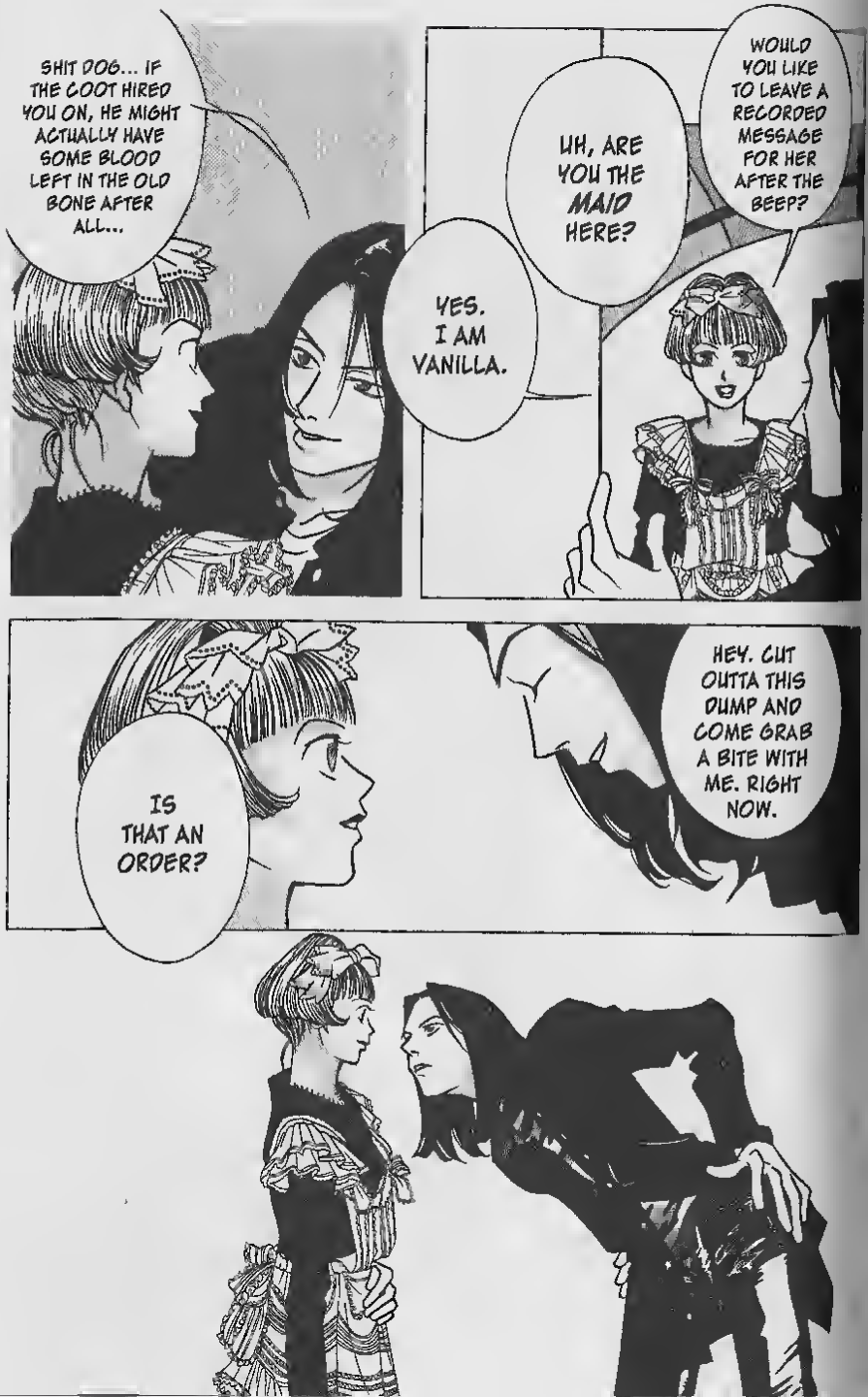
HELLOO-- OH, VANILLA. YOU KEEP GETTING HEAVIER, DON'T YOU?
MY MASS HAS NOT CHANGED SIGNIFICANTLY, MASTER. MY COMPONENTS REMAIN THE SAME.
MASTER, WHAT WILL YOU HAVE FOR BREAKF--
HEY, LADIES FIRST!
YOU CAN DEAL WITH HIS CRAP LATER.
...YES, MA'AM.

PLEASE ENJOY, MASTER.
THANK YOU.
VANILLA...
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE...
...SINCE YOU JOINED US HERE?
IT HAS BEEN ONE YEAR, FOUR MONTHS AND 27 DAYS SINCE DELIVERY, MASTER.
HAS IT BEEN SO LONG?

HOW ABOUT HAVING BREAKFAST WITH ME, MISSY?
I CANNOT ABSORB ORGANIC MATTER.
TRUE, BUT YOU CAN *PRETEND* TO EAT...
TO BE PRECISE, IT HAS BEEN ONE YEAR, FOUR MONTHS, 27 DAYS, 11 HOURS, 16 MINUTES, 53 SECONDS.
HA, HA, HA! I'LL TAKE YOUR WORD FOR IT!
IT'S GETS A LITTLE LONELY, EATING ALONE, YOU KNOW.
.....

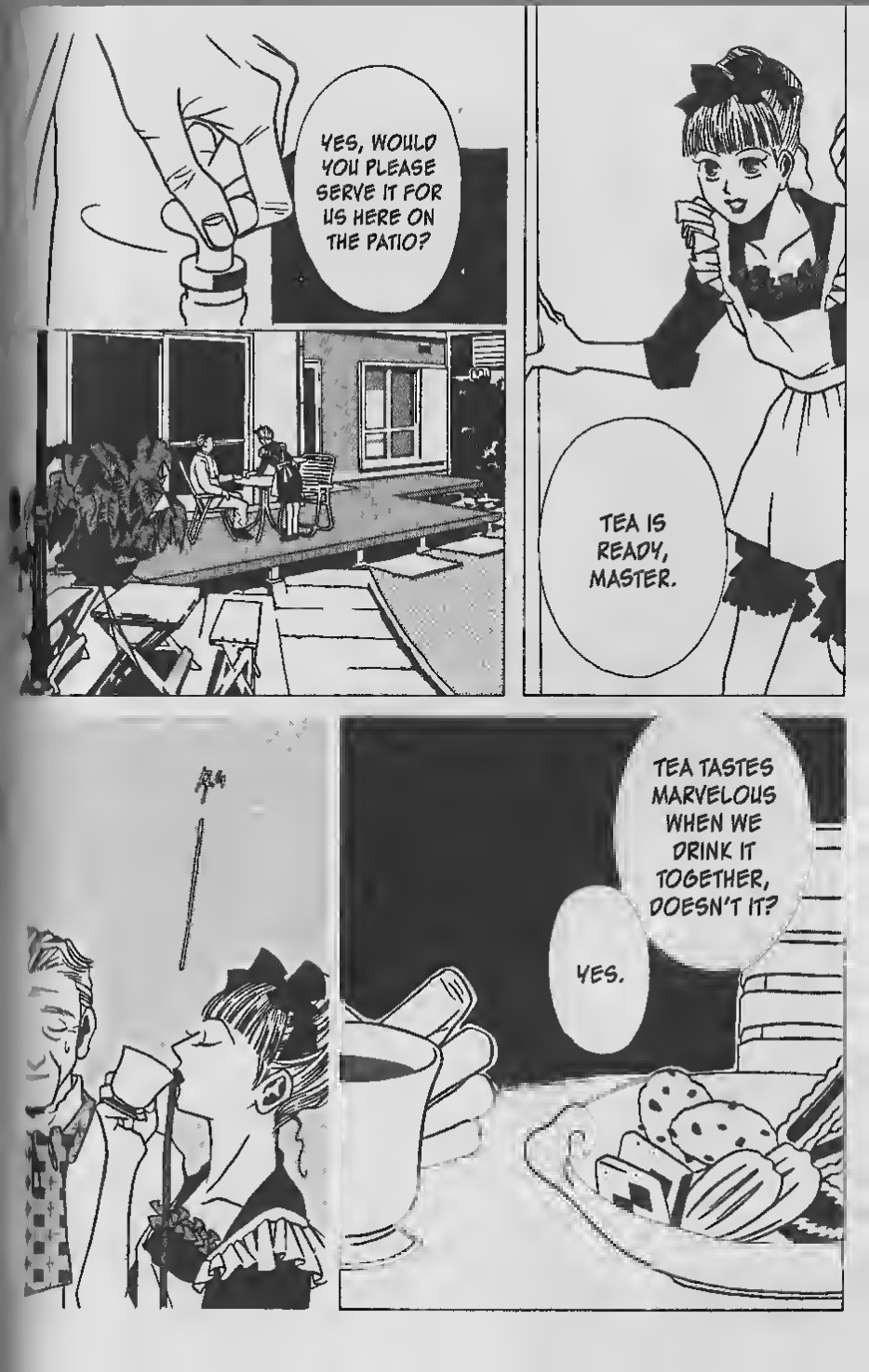
I KNOW MY WIFE CAN BE DIFFICULT TO PLEASE. SHE DOESN'T ALWAYS EXHIBIT THE PROPER APPRECIATION FOR ALL YOU DO, AND I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I'M VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR MANY LOVELY SERVICES.
SINCE MY WIFE AND I HAVE NO CHILDREN, WELL, LET'S JUST SAY...
...I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE.
SERVICE IS MY PROGRAMMED FUNCTION, MASTER.


YES?
WHO IS IT?
flutter
YO, IS HANAKO IN?
MADAM IS OUT RIGHT NOW.


SHIT DOG... IF THE COOT HIRED YOU ON, HE MIGHT ACTUALLY HAVE SOME BLOOD LEFT IN THE OLD BONE AFTER ALL...
UH, ARE YOU THE MAID HERE?
YES. I AM VANILLA.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEAVE A RECORDED MESSAGE FOR HER AFTER THE BEEP?
HEY. CUT OUTTA THIS DUMP AND COME GRAB A BITE WITH ME. RIGHT NOW.
IS THAT AN ORDER?

Naoa Shiiya!
YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE FUCKIN' SG ROBOTS, HUH?
SG-667
OH, HEY!
LEMME ASK YOU SOMETHING ...
YES?
IF YOU'D LIKE TO LEAVE A RECORDED MESSAGE FOR THE MADAM, YOU MAY DO SO AFTER TH--
YEAH, YEAH, ENOUGH.

IN YOUR ROBOT FUNCTIONS, CAN YOU, UH, DO IT? Y'KNOW... FUCK?


YES, WOULD YOU PLEASE SERVE IT FOR US HERE ON THE PATIO?
TEA IS READY, MASTER.
TEA TASTES MARVELOUS WHEN WE DRINK IT TOGETHER, DOESN'T IT?
YES.

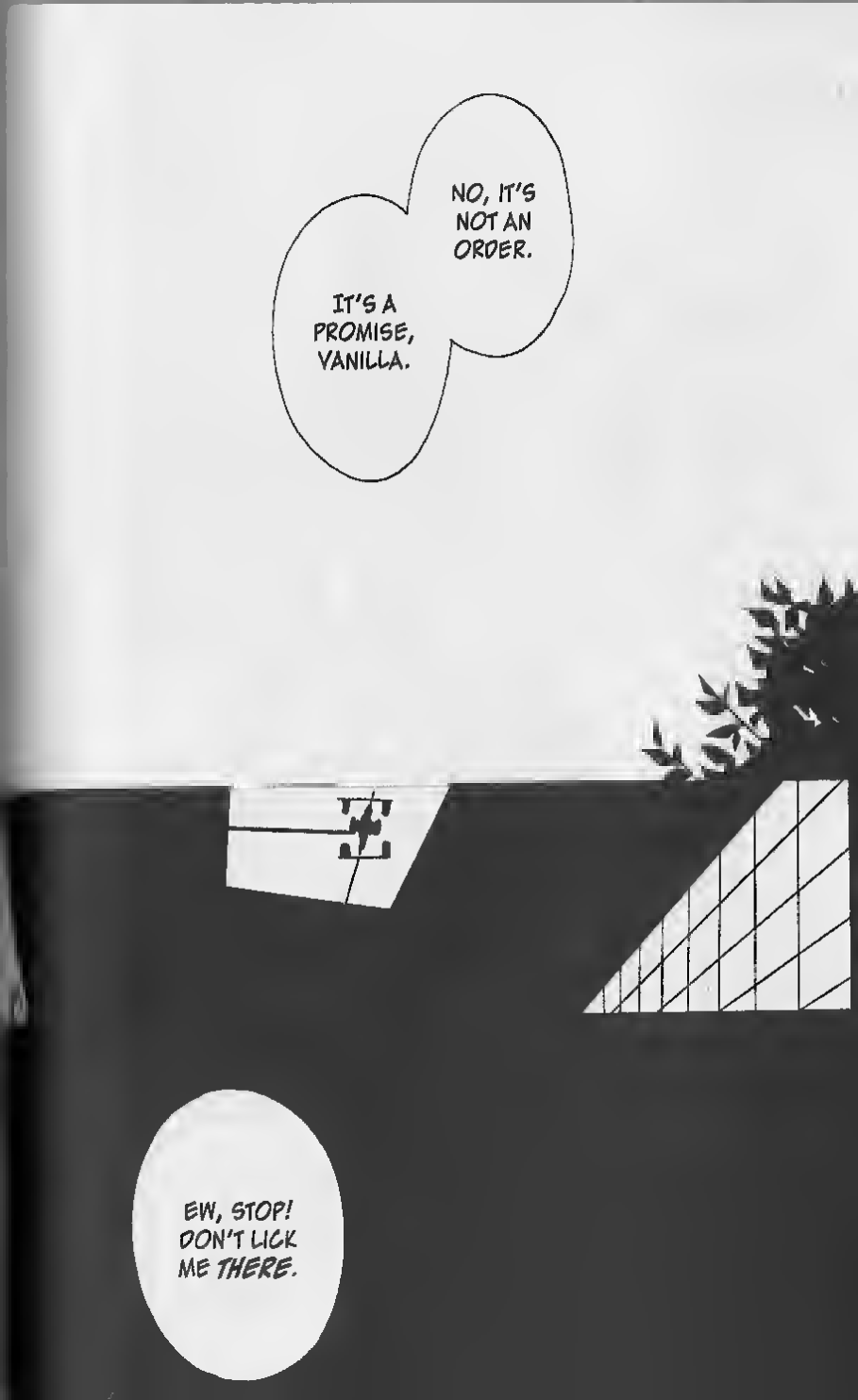
LOOK, VANILLA SOME SEEDLINGS ARE SPROUTING OVER THERE, SEE THEM?
THEY'RE SUNFLOWERS. THEY'LL BLOOM BEAUTIFULLY COME SUMMER.
SUN-FLOWERS HAVE AN INTERESTING QUALITY...
...THEY ALWAYS BUD FACING EAST, WHERE THE SUN WILL FIRST RISE.

FORWARD-THINKING, HONEST... INCAPABLE OF SADNESS... ALWAYS FACING THE LIGHT...
MASTER...
PRESCIENT INSTINCT, ISN'T IT? DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S LIKE YOU, VANILLA?
...FOUR SEASONS APPLE TEA?
WOULD YOU LIKE SOME MORE...
MASTER...
WHEN YOU GET TO BE MY AGE, SOMEHOW YOU GET TURNED AROUND. THEN... YOU LIE TO YOURSELF ABOUT IT...
I'D LIKE TO BE LIKE THAT, BUT...

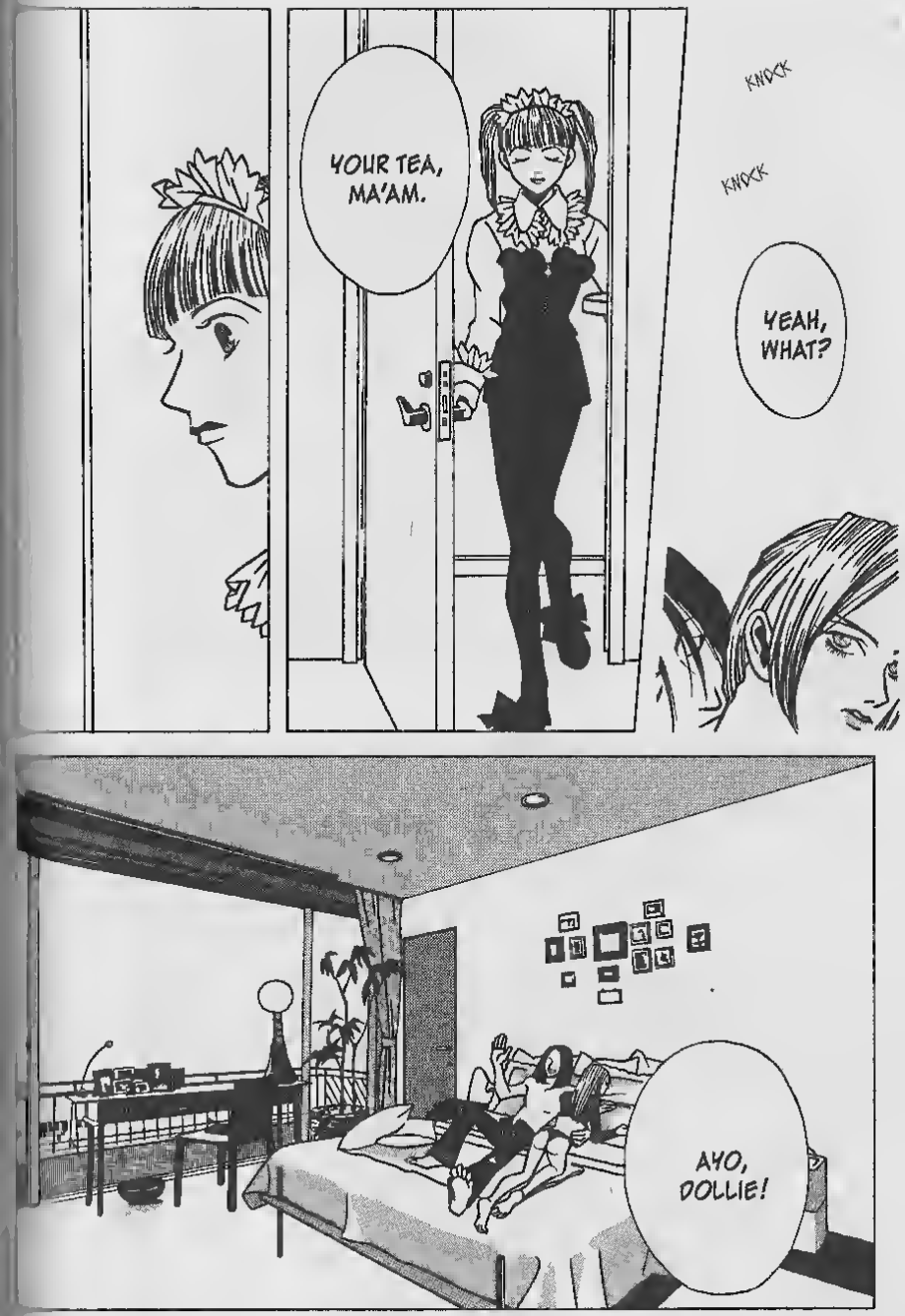
THANK YOU.
...THAT'S WONDER-FUL...
.....
VANILLA! GET IN HERE!!
VANILLA! ...DAMN IT...

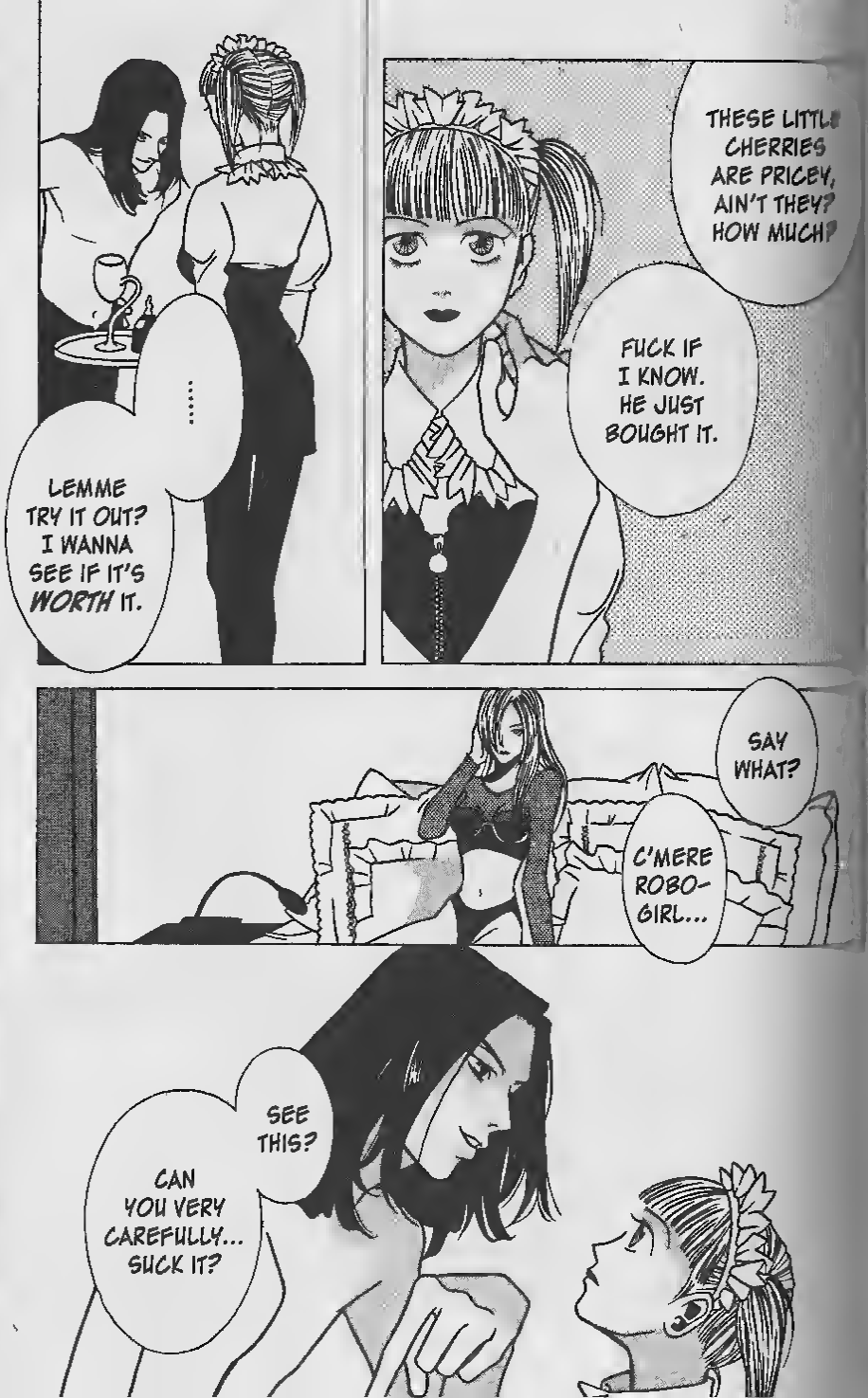
WHAT YOU HAVE TOLD ME ABOUT THE SUNFLOWERS IS A WONDER...
BUT YOU ARE THE ONE WHO GROWS THE SUNFLOWERS WHICH CAUSES THEM TO BLOOM, AREN'T YOU, MASTER?
I'M FINE. WHY DON'T YOU GO SEE WHAT SHE WANTS?
MASTER...
I THINK THAT IS MUCH MORE WONDER-FUL.
VANILLA!

VANILLA, WHEN THE SUNFLOWERS BLOOM, LET'S HAVE A PICNIC AND ENJOY THEM TOGETHER.
LET'S MAKE A LUNCH AND EAT IT WHILE WE LOOK AT THE FLOWERS.
FOR ME, THAT WOULD BE THE MOST WONDERFUL THING OF ALL.
IS THAT AN ORDER, MASTER?


NO, IT'S NOT AN ORDER.
IT'S A PROMISE, VANILLA.
EW, STOP! DON'T LICK ME THERE.

...NOT UNTIL PRUNE FACE FINALLY BITES IT. SO MAKE YOURSELF USEFUL AND START LOOSENING HANDRAILS.
I SAID STOP! IT TICKLES. I TOLD YOU...
SO WHEN DO I GET TO MOVE INTO THE MANSION?
YEAH RIGHT! I WISH!
YOU'RE LIKE, SOME KIND OF WICKED WITCH OR SOMETHING, AREN'T YOU?
THEN YOU GET HIS... WHOLE... ESTATE... DAMN, HANAKO!

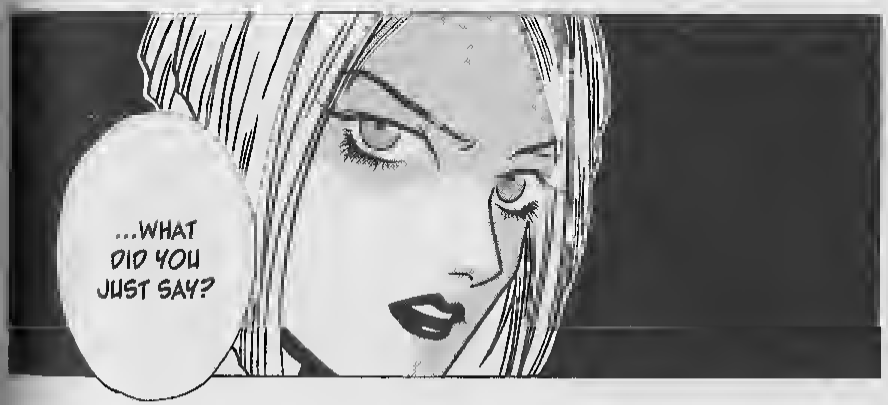

YOUR TEA, MA'AM.
KNOCK
KNOCK
YEAH, WHAT?
AYO, DOLLIE!


LEMME TRY IT OUT? I WANNA SEE IF IT'S *WORTH* IT.
THESE LITTLE CHERRIES ARE PRICEY, AIN'T THEY? HOW MUCH?
FUCK IF I KNOW. HE JUST BOUGHT IT.
SAY WHAT?
C'MERE ROBO-GIRL...
SEE THIS?
CAN YOU VERY CAREFULLY... SUCK IT?

OH, YO!
HILARIOUS! ...OOH. THIS IS SOOO WEIRD...
WEIRD LIKE HOW?
IT'S LIKE... GETTING MY JUNK WORKED BY LUBED BALL BEARINGS....
WHAT'S THAT MEAN?

I DUNNO. MAYBE I COULD GET HOOKED ON THIS...
OMIGOD, SHUT UP!
VANILLA.

THE MARRIAGE WAS A MISTAKE FROM THE VERY BEGINNING.

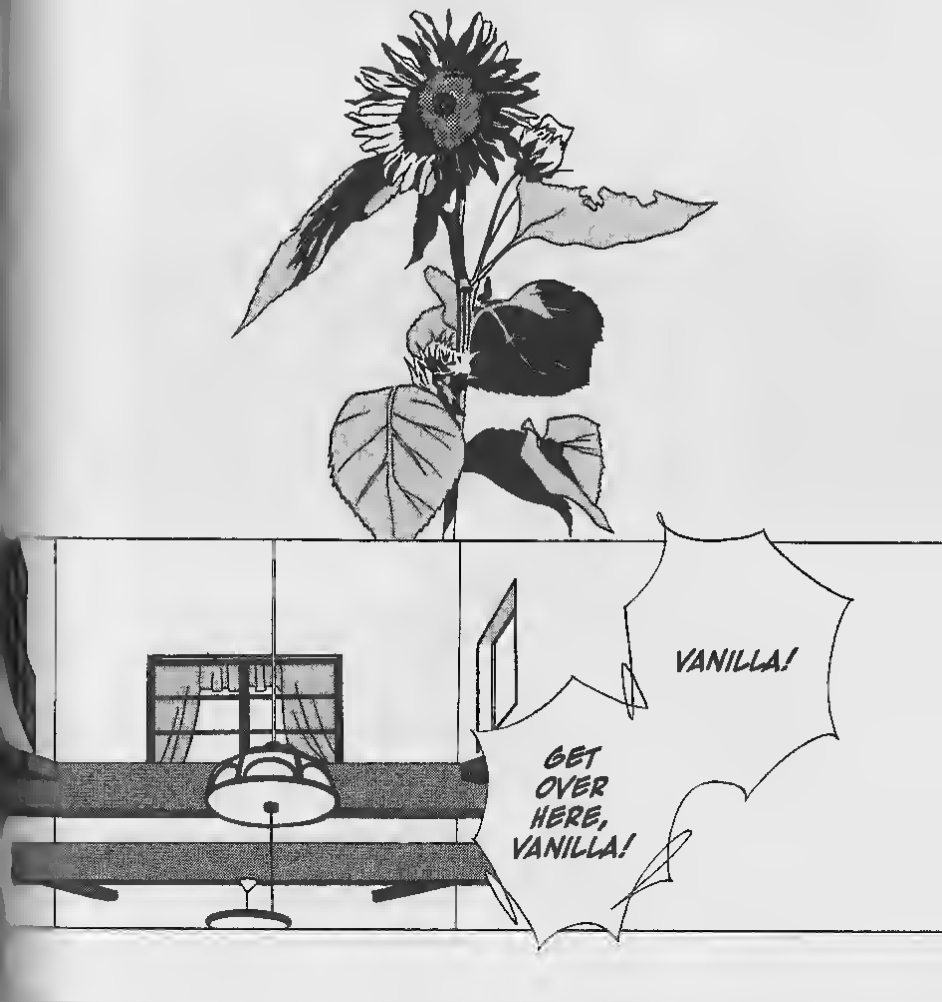


DO YOU THINK I'M GRANTING YOU A DIVORCE, YOU SENILE FUCK?! NO!!
THAT'S ENOUGH, HANAKO.
LET'S PUT AN END TO THIS... FUCKING... SHAM.
ALL I EVER USED TO CONCERN MYSELF WITH WAS ABOUT HOW TO KEEP UP APPEARANCES...

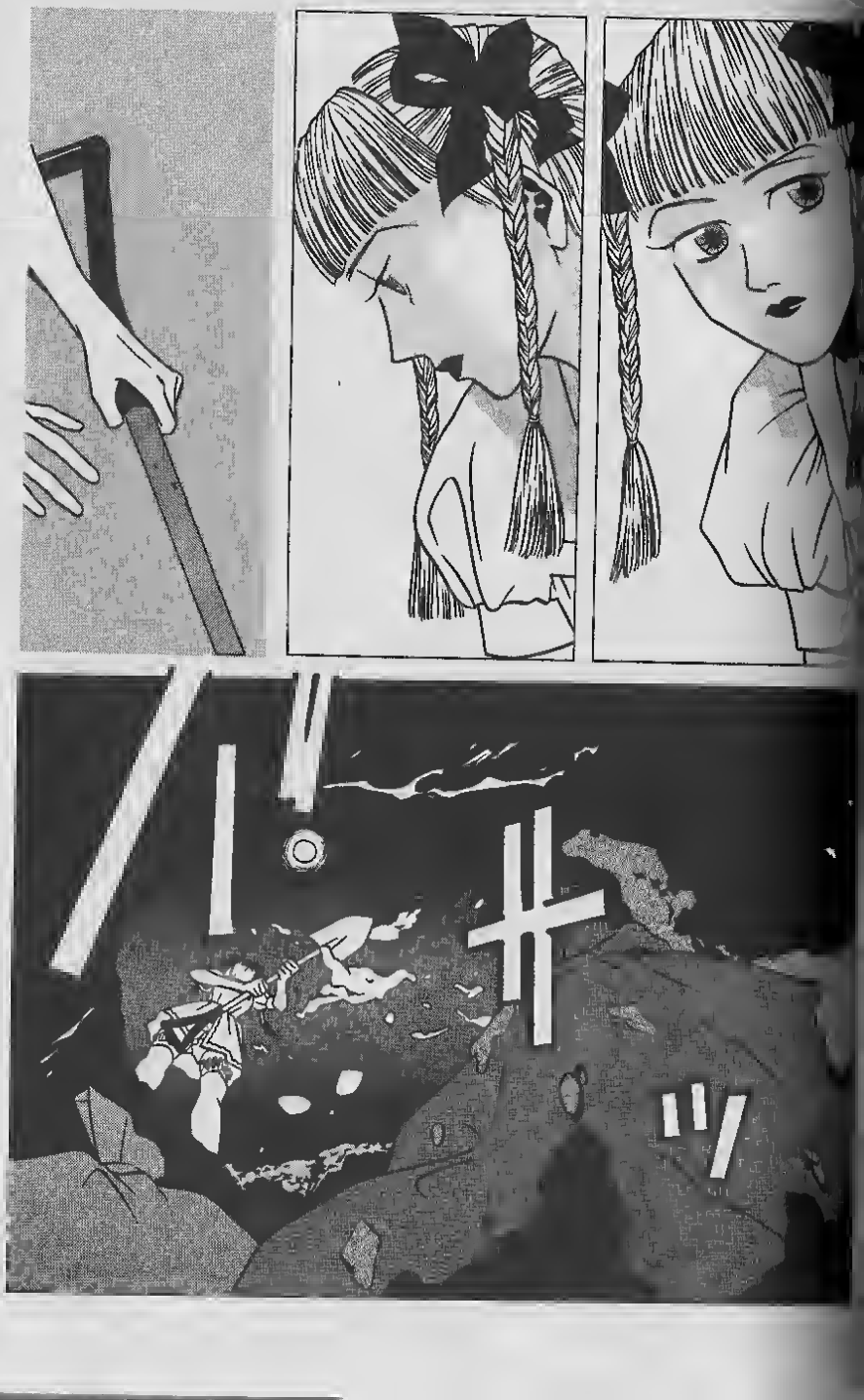
THAT'S VERY FUNNY.
THIS IS THE END. NO MORE.
AFTER ALL THE CRAP I PUT UP WITH, HUH? THE SUFFERING TO EARN MY MONEY...

IT'S ALL THANKS TO VANILLA.

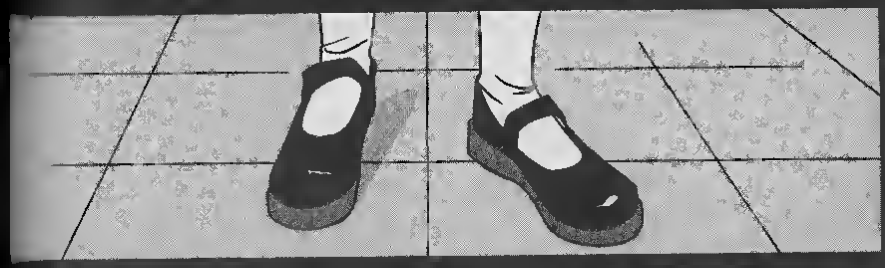
FROM TODAY ON, UNTIL THE DAY I DIE, I'M GOING TO BE HONEST WITH MYSELF.



GARBAGE DAY IS TOMOR--
NO! I SAID NOW! HURRY UP AND GO!
BURY THIS SOME-WHERE.



UNQUESTIONING, UNFAILING
OBEDIENCE TO HUMAN COMMANDS.

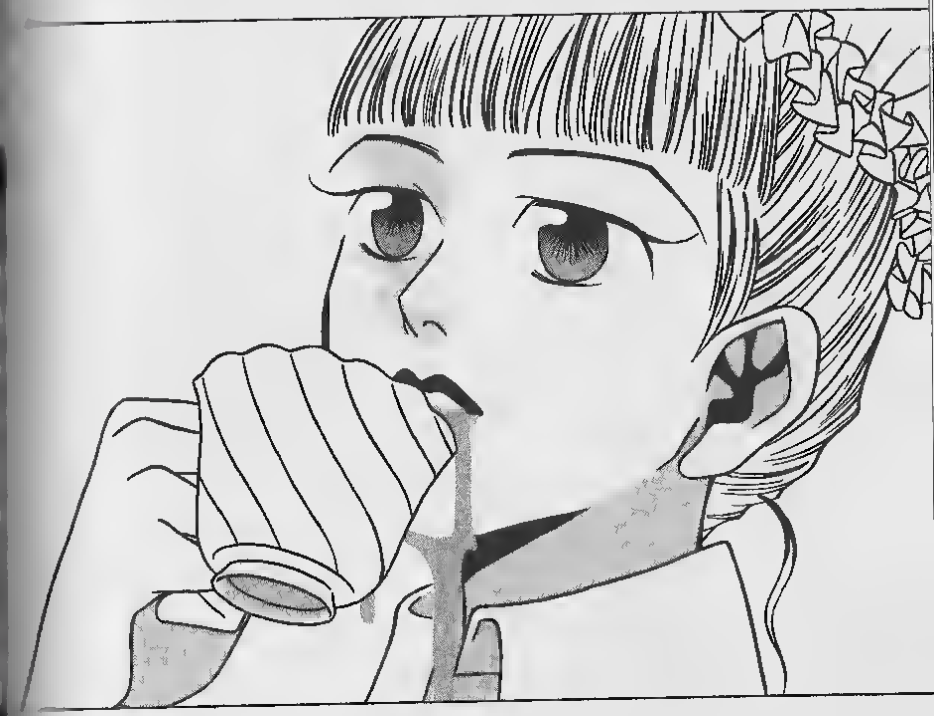


...VANILLA, IF I HEAR THAT OUT OF YOU AGAIN, YOU'RE GONNA BE SCRAP PARTS.
THAT WAS THE MASTER, WASN'T IT?
UNDERSTAND?! YOU FORGET ABOUT THIS.
NO, IT'S NOT AN ORDER.
IS THAT AN ORDER?

THAT'S RIGHT.
THAT IS AN ORDER.
AS YOU WISH...
...MA'AM.

IT'S A PROMISE, VANILLA.

DON'T
YOU THINK
THEY'RE LIKE
YOU, VANILLA?
FORWARD-
THINKING,
HONEST...



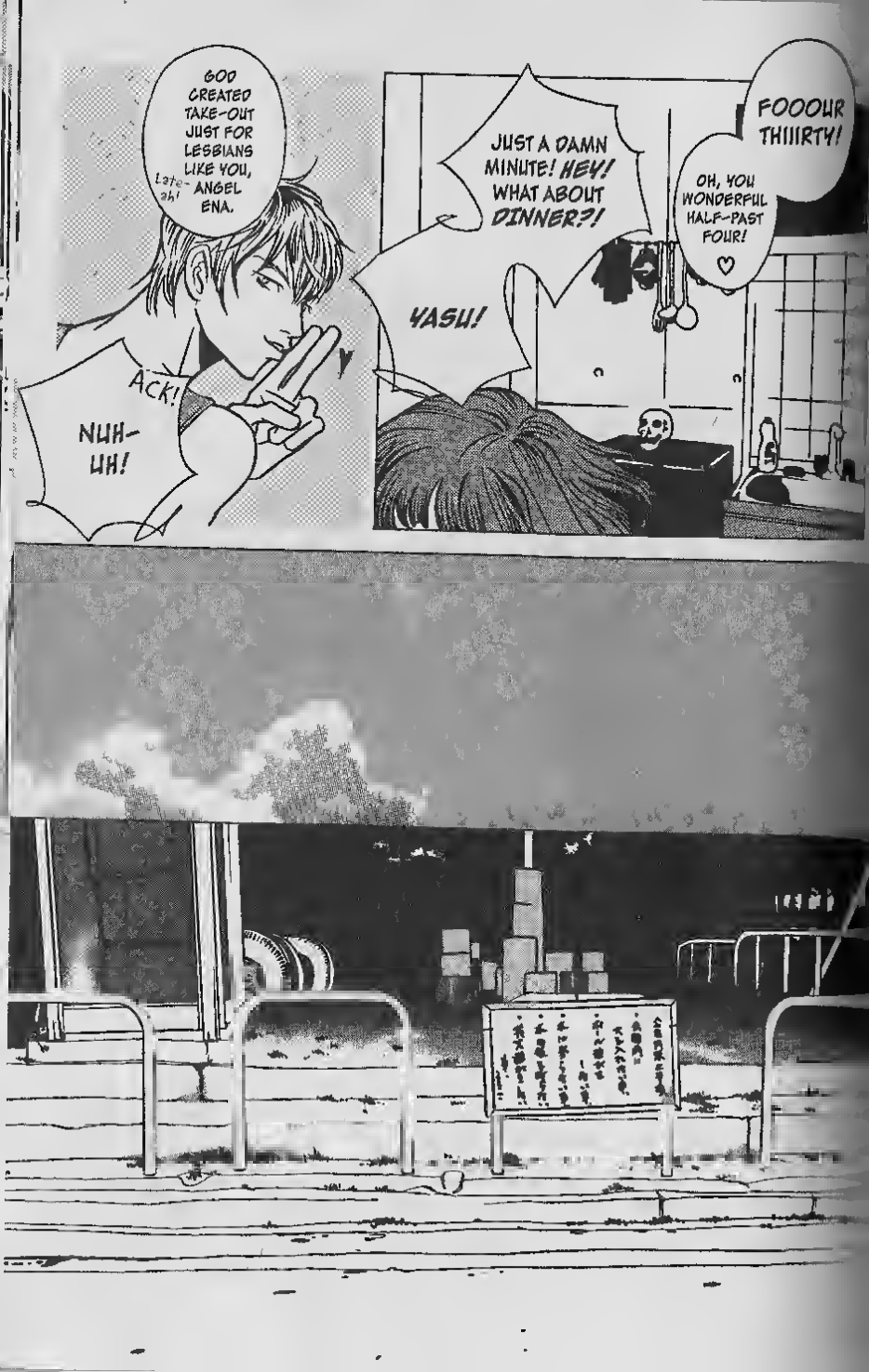
INCAPABLE OF
SADNESS...
...ALWAYS FACING
THE LIGHT...

END

バラ鉄線のむこう側

The Other Side of the Rose Wire

RIGHT. SO WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO ABOUT DINNER?
PAY ATTENTION, STUPID DYKE!
I DON'T WANT TO LISTEN! I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR FAIRYTALE GIRL.
I SUPPOSE NOT EVERYONE CAN HAVE SOPHISTICATED TASTE!
OKAY, IN THE FIRST PLACE, THIS CHICKIE IS ACTUALLY PRANCING AROUND WITH A WOVEN BASKET, WHICH IS--
OH, JUMPING CHRIST! IS IT 4:30 ALREADY?
THERE MUST BE FLOWERS IN THE BASKET... MAYBE LACE... AND A BOOK OF POETRY.


GOD CREATED TAKE-OUT JUST FOR LESBIANS LIKE YOU, ANGEL ENA.
Late- 24!
ACK!
NUH-UH!
JUST A DAMN MINUTE! HEY! WHAT ABOUT DINNER?!
YASU!
FOOOUR THIIIRTY!
OH, YOU WONDERFUL HALF-PAST FOUR! ♡

EASY NOW...USE YOUR LEGS, OKAY?
...ALL RIGHT, NOW... SIT...

YES, YES. IS THAT SO? WELL THE DOCTOR SAID IT WAS GOOD FOR YOU TO GET OUTSIDE AND TAKE WALKS, ANYWAY, DIDN'T HE?
TH...THE BRIDE, THE BRIDE FROM NEXT DOOR BOILS CATS EVERY DAY. I HAVE TO GET OUT... OUTDOORS LIKE THIS.
PLEASE ...
... OOHH ...
AA--
YOUR MOU HAS A LITT SCHMUT ON IT, DAD HERE, HOL STILL A SECOND
A TISKET? A TASKET? WHAT'S IN THE BASKET?

?!
YOU ARE AN A-LI-EN! YOU ARE AN A-LI-EN!
LOOKIT HIS OVERALLS! LOOKIT HIS HAIR!
GET LOST, YOU LITTLE BASTARDS!
BEAT IT BEFORE I FUCK YOU MOMS!
WAAH!

SO THIS IS DINNER?
ALL KINDSA CRAP LIKE THAT.
SHE'S LIKE, "ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, FATHER? WATCH YOUR STEP, OKAY?"
AND IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'S GOT THIS REALLY WONDERFUL, KIND PERSONALITY, YOU KNOW...
THE WAY SHE TALKS SO SWEETLY TO HER DEMENTED OLD DAD...
NOT BAD, RIGHT? I SIMPLY COOKED UP SOME RICE AND MIXED IN A BAG OF GARLIC FLAVORED POTATO CHIPS.
...SHIT--IT HURTS ME TO SAY THIS, BUT... IT'S ACTUALLY KINDA GOOD.
YEAH, RIGHT?
You're one to talk with your lame overalls, ☆Farmer Yasu!
HEY, SLIP A SHIRT OVER THOSE BUTTER BAGS, HUH? It's not sexy

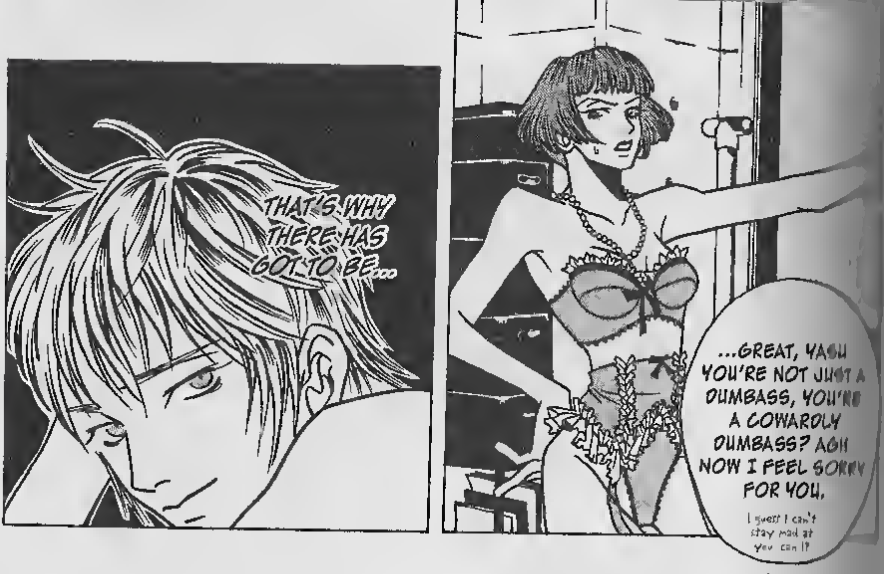
Look..
IT MUST BE TOUGH...
HE MAY BE FAMILY, BUT...
POOR THING; SHE'S RIGHT AT THE AGE WHEN A GIRL JUST WANTS TO GO OUT AND HAVE SOME FUN.
I ADMIRE HER. IF IT WAS ME, I'D HAVE LONG SINCE PUT HIM IN A NURSING HOME.
HEY NOW!

AAH...
AAH.
WHAT?... WHAT? WHAT?! WHAT DO YOU WANT, OLD GUY?!
DAD!
I'M VERY SORRY. IT'S MY FAULT. I WASN'T WATCHING HIM CAREFULLY ENOUGH...
NO, UM...
I'M SO SORRY!
OH, DAD, YOU SHOULDN'T ...

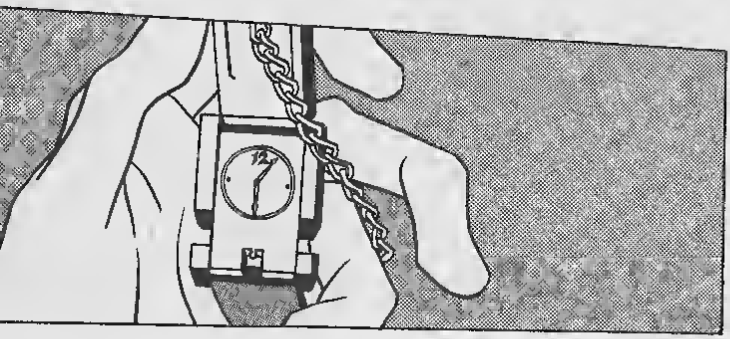
NO, IT'S, UH... Y'KNOW, I ATE HALF OF IT ANYWAY...
THANK YOU... YOU'RE TOO KIND. I TRULY APOLOGIZE...
FamilyMart
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SIR.

ASS
NEW!!
SNICKERS
WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO, HUH?! YOU SPENT TWO DAYS WORTH OF OUR FOOD BUDGET ON THIS SHIT?!
ASS-HOLE!
--SSSHOLE!!! AREN'T YOU?! YOU STUPID, STUPID, DORKY, INCONSIDERATE ASSHOLE!
ENA, WHAT DO YOU THINK'S IN THAT GIRL'S BASKET?
THAT'S NOT... DO YOU EVEN HEAR WHAT I'M SCREAMING AT YOU?!
This is why I hate men.

ALZHEIMERS, OR SOMETHING, RIGHT? HE HAD, LIKE, SIXTEEN BLOOD CLOTS IN HIS HEAD AND...
MY DAD WENT LOOPY WHEN HE GOT OLD TOO, Y'KNOW...
...WE COULDN'T TAKE CARE OF HIM ANYMORE. ONE DAY WE ALL VOTED TO STUFF HIM IN A NURSING HOME...
THEY FORCED ME TO BRING OVER A CHANGE OF UNDERWEAR AND FRESH DIAPERS EVERY LOVIN' DAY. IT SUCKED.
.....

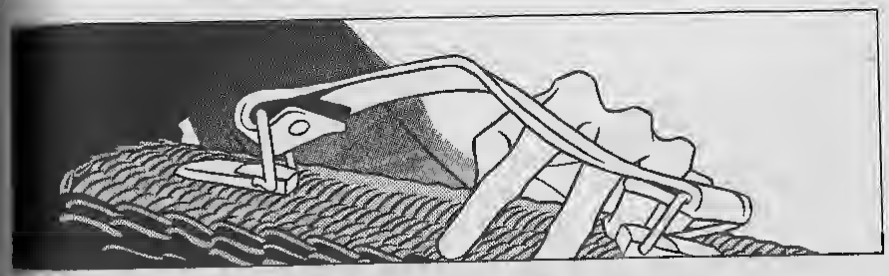

THAT'S WHY THERE HAS GOT TO BE...
...GREAT, YASU YOU'RE NOT JUST A DUMBASS, YOU'RE A COWARDLY DUMBASS? AGH NOW I FEEL SORRY FOR YOU.
I guess I can't stay mad at you can I?

...LOVELY LACE...
IN THAT BASKET.



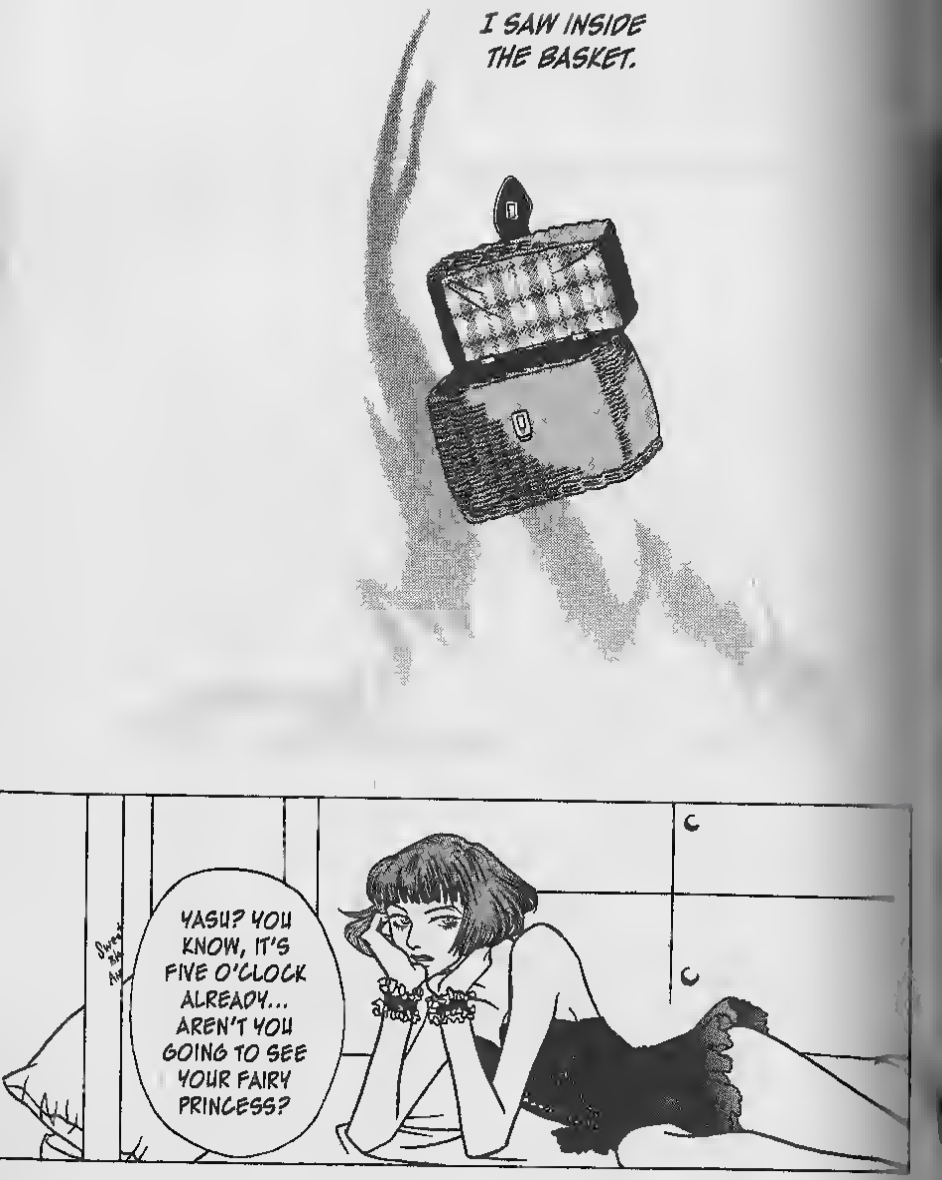
ISN'T SHE COMING TODAY?
CBGB
...THAT'S WHAT I HEARD.
I NOTICED THEY WERE STILL COMING HERE UNTIL 2 OR 3 DAYS AGO, SO I--
OH, HOW SAD...
!
I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT NOW THAT ITS OVER... WELL... AT LEAST SHE'S FREE NOW...
CBGB
I BELIEVE THE WAKE IS SUPPOSED TO BE TOMORROW.

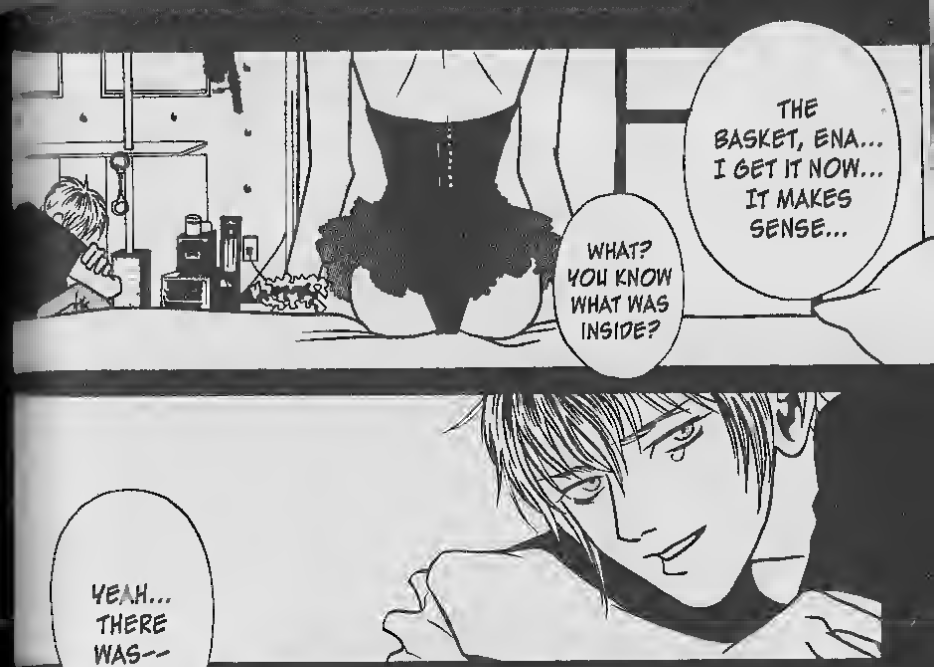
IT'S A SMALL TOWN.
IS SOMETHING BURNING?
IT WASN'T TOO TRICKY TO FIND HER HOUSE.



SHE WAS DRESSED IN MOURNING...VERY BEAUTIFUL...AND...

...SHE HAD A LITTLE SMILE.


I SAW INSIDE THE BASKET.
YASU? YOU KNOW, IT'S FIVE O'CLOCK ALREADY... AREN'T YOU GOING TO SEE YOUR FAIRY PRINCESS?

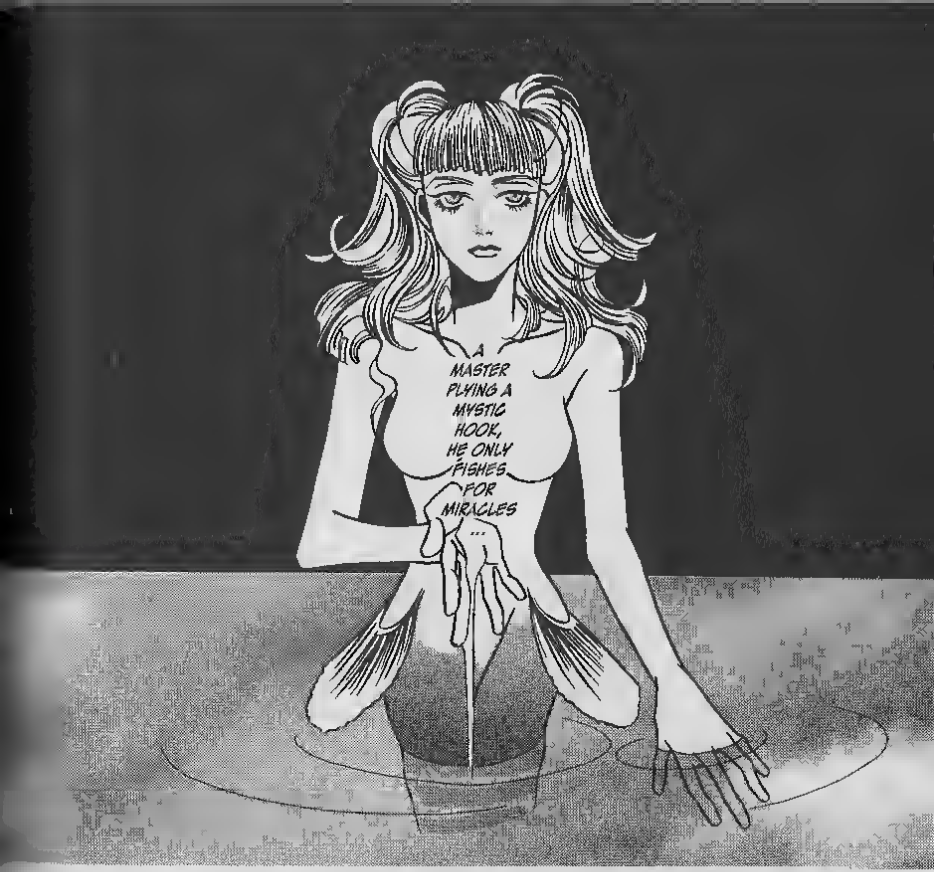

THE BASKET, ENA... I GET IT NOW... IT MAKES SENSE...
WHAT? YOU KNOW WHAT WAS INSIDE?

YEAH... THERE WAS--

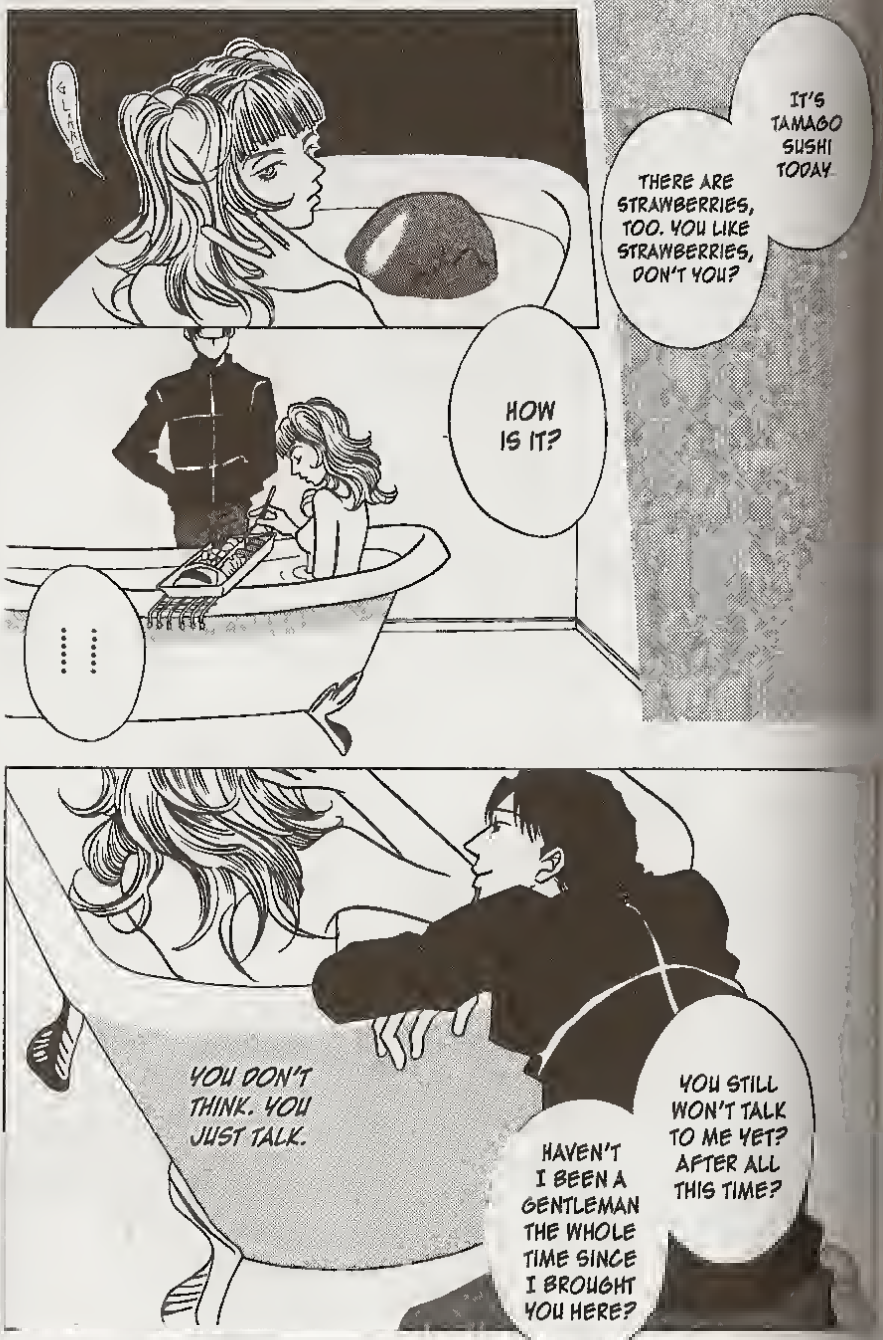
END

籠の魚

Fish Out of Water


A MASTER FLYING A MYSTIC HOOK, HE ONLY FISHES FOR MIRACLES ...

I BROUGHT YOU DINNER.


ALIEN
IT'S TAMAGO SUSHI TODAY
THERE ARE STRAWBERRIES, TOO. YOU LIKE STRAWBERRIES, DON'T YOU?
HOW IS IT?
.....
YOU DON'T THINK. YOU JUST TALK.
HAVEN'T I BEEN A GENTLEMAN THE WHOLE TIME SINCE I BROUGHT YOU HERE?
YOU STILL WON'T TALK TO ME YET? AFTER ALL THIS TIME?

YOU, WHO WRENCHED ME UP FROM MY HOME AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE...

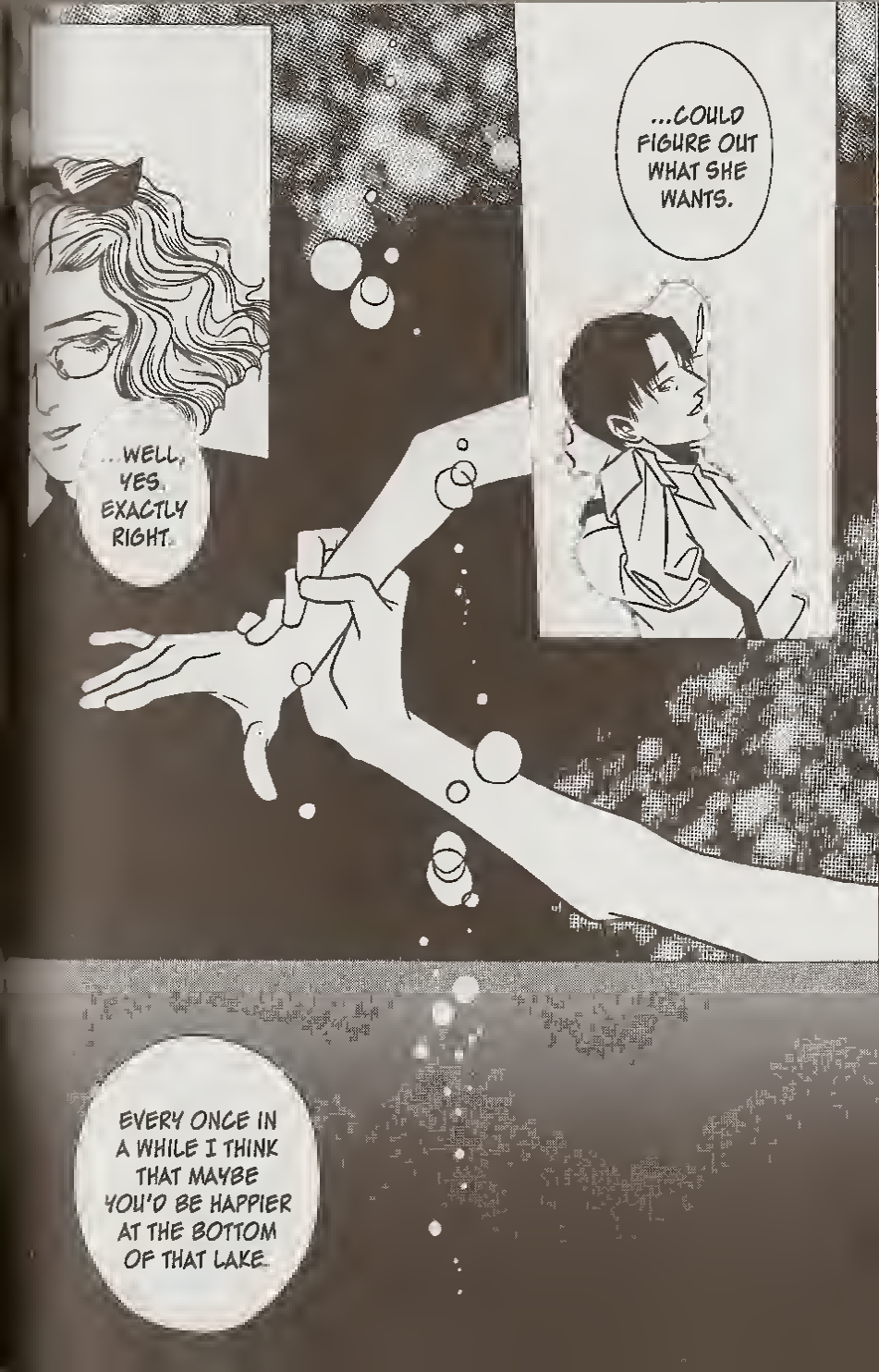
...I CANNOT MAKE A SOUND.
YOU HAULED ME UP WITH THE SHARP HOOK, WHICH IS STILL IN MY THROAT NOW, SO THAT EVEN IF I WANT TO...
MAYBE YOU DO NOT LIKE TO THINK THAT WHAT I WANT IS MUCH SIMPLER.
WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO READ YOU A NEW BOOK?
OR MAYBE I COULD... GARLAND YOU IN FLOWERS?
YOU UNDERSTAND NOTHING, DO YOU?
.....

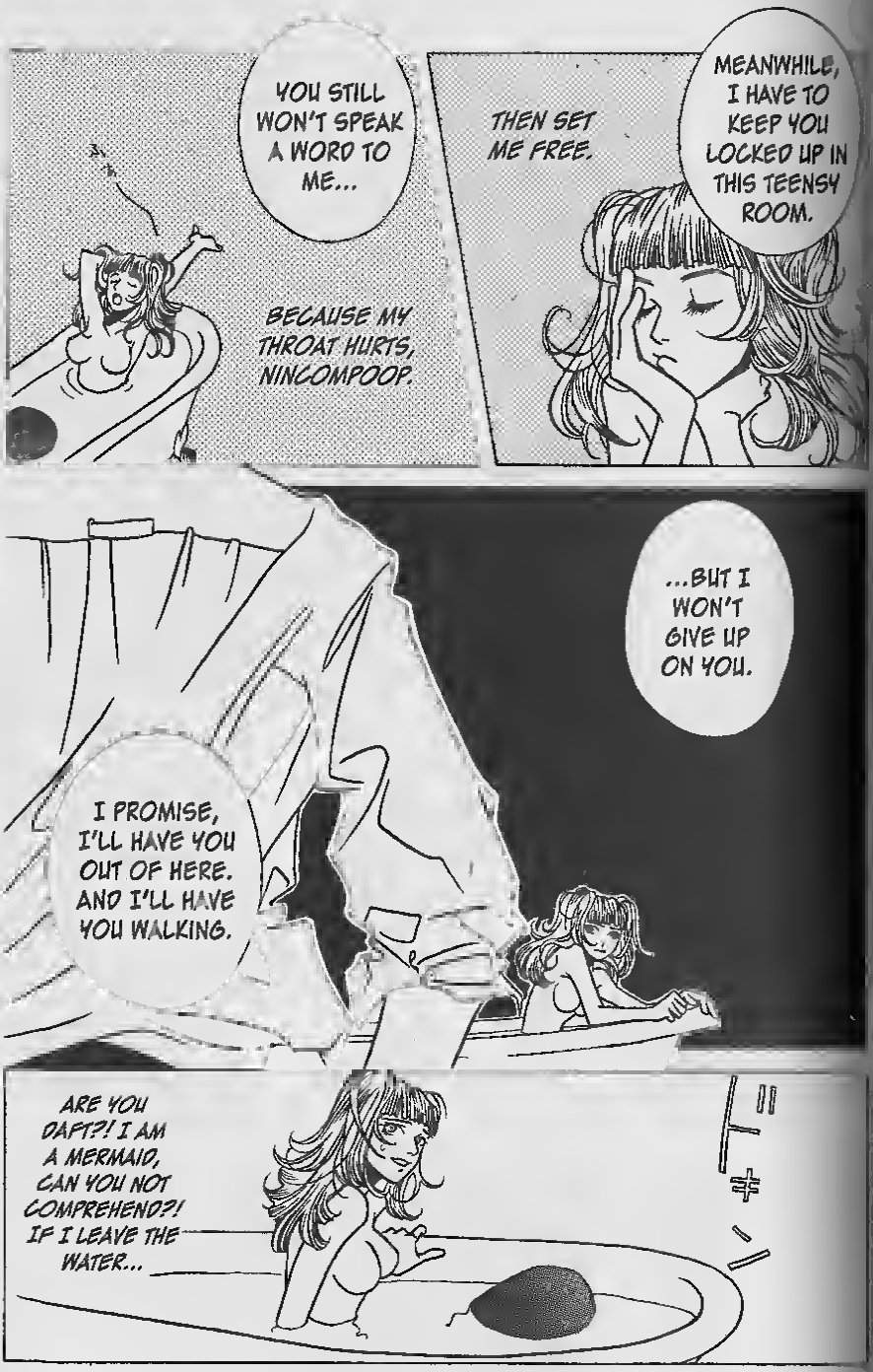
IT WAS SO NICE, LIFE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE. I HAD ALL I NEEDED...
I BROUGHT A FRIEND OVER, TODAY.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
HE'S TOLD ME A LOT ABOUT YOU.

MY HEALTH IS NOT YOUR BUSINESS.
I'M AFRAID YOU'LL GET SICK!
AREN'T YOU COLD, SITTING IN HERE LIKE THIS?
WHO IS THIS LADY HE BRINGS?
Hee-Hee!
LOOK HOW CUTE YOU ARE! YOU COULD BE MY LITTLE SISTER!
PRESUMPTUOUS HUSSY.
UMMM...I BROUGHT YOU A PRESENT! I TRULY HOPE YOU LIKE IT...
WHY ARE YOU STARING AT ME LIKE THAT?! STOP IT!

IT'S A BLOUSE, BUT...
COME ON, YOU SHOULDN'T DO THAT, YOU KNOW, SHE--
DIMWIT! WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS?!
YEEK!
ドン
I DON'T THINK SHE LIKES ME.
I THINK I'LL GO HOME FOR TODAY.

IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'S ONLY CIVIL WITH YOU, EH?
DELIGHTFUL. GO HOME, GO HOME. AND DO NOT EVER COME BACK--BAH!
snicker
IS THAT A FACT?
I CAN'T IMAGINE SHE LIKES ME VERY MUCH, EITHER.
WHO CAN SAY?
I MEAN, OUT OF ANYONE, SURELY YOU...
BUT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO PULLED THE GIRL OUT OF THE LAKE...


...COULD FIGURE OUT WHAT SHE WANTS.
..WELL, YES. EXACTLY RIGHT.
EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE I THINK THAT MAYBE YOU'D BE HAPPIER AT THE BOTTOM OF THAT LAKE.

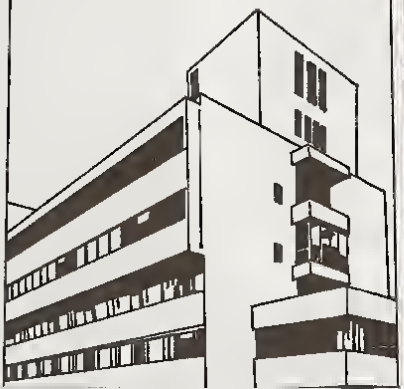

YOU STILL WON'T SPEAK A WORD TO ME...
BECAUSE MY THROAT HURTS, NINCOMPOOP.
THEN SET ME FREE.
MEANWHILE, I HAVE TO KEEP YOU LOCKED UP IN THIS TEENSY ROOM.
...BUT I WON'T GIVE UP ON YOU.
I PROMISE, I'LL HAVE YOU OUT OF HERE. AND I'LL HAVE YOU WALKING.
ARE YOU DAFT?! I AM A MERMAID, CAN YOU NOT COMPREHEND?! IF I LEAVE THE WATER...

BE BRAVE. TRY. NOW. I KNOW IT'S HARD. BUT TAKE ONE LEAP OF FAITH FOR ME
I'LL BE RIGHT HERE WITH YOU.
STOP! STOP! IF I LEAVE THE WATER, I DIE!
STOP! I'M SCARED!
"I'M SCARED, MOMMY."
"I'M SORRY, BABY. I KNOW IT'S HARD, BUT MOMMY'S RIGHT HERE WITH YOU..."

YYIIII-
AAAHH-
HHAAHH!
SO NICE... LIFE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE, I HAD ALL I NEEDED.
"PLEASE, BABY! COME WITH MOMMY. DON'T MAKE ME DIE ALONE!"
"IT'S HORRIFYING. THAT SHE COULD DRAG HER LITTLE GIRL DOWN ALONG WITH HER..."
THAT'S NOTHING. I AM A MERMAID.
"DAMN IT. WE'RE TOO LATE TO SAVE THE MOTHER."
WHAT? WHAT WA
THAT? THA
NOT...THA
NOTHING

...IT'S OKAY. IT'S OKAY...
... NOTHING TO BE SCARED OF ANYMORE.
I MADE YOU REMEMBER SOMETHING AWFUL, DIDN'T YOU...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SUFFER ANYMORE.
WE'RE HERE TO PROTECT YOU.

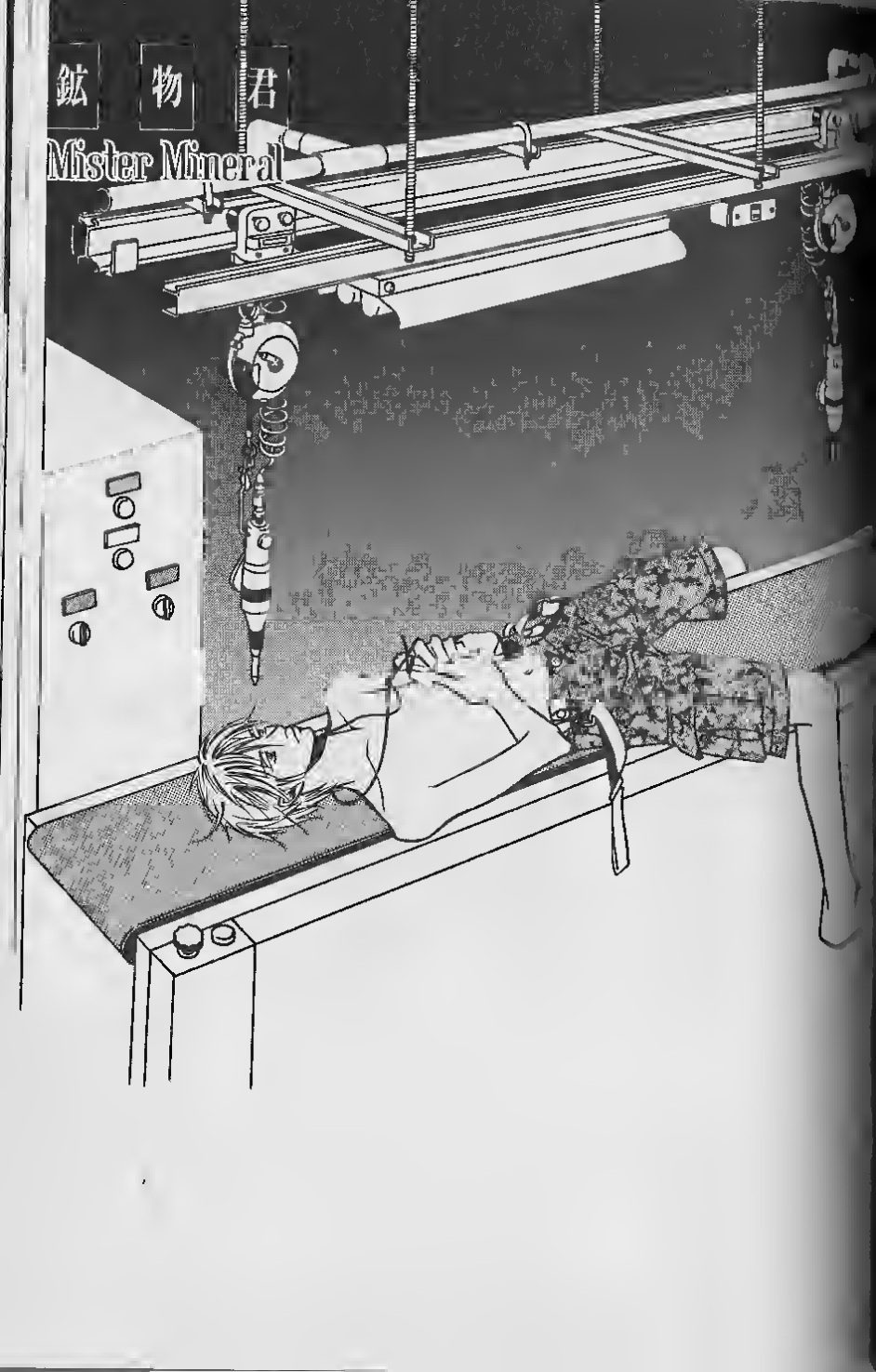
HE ONLY FISHED FOR MIRACLES...



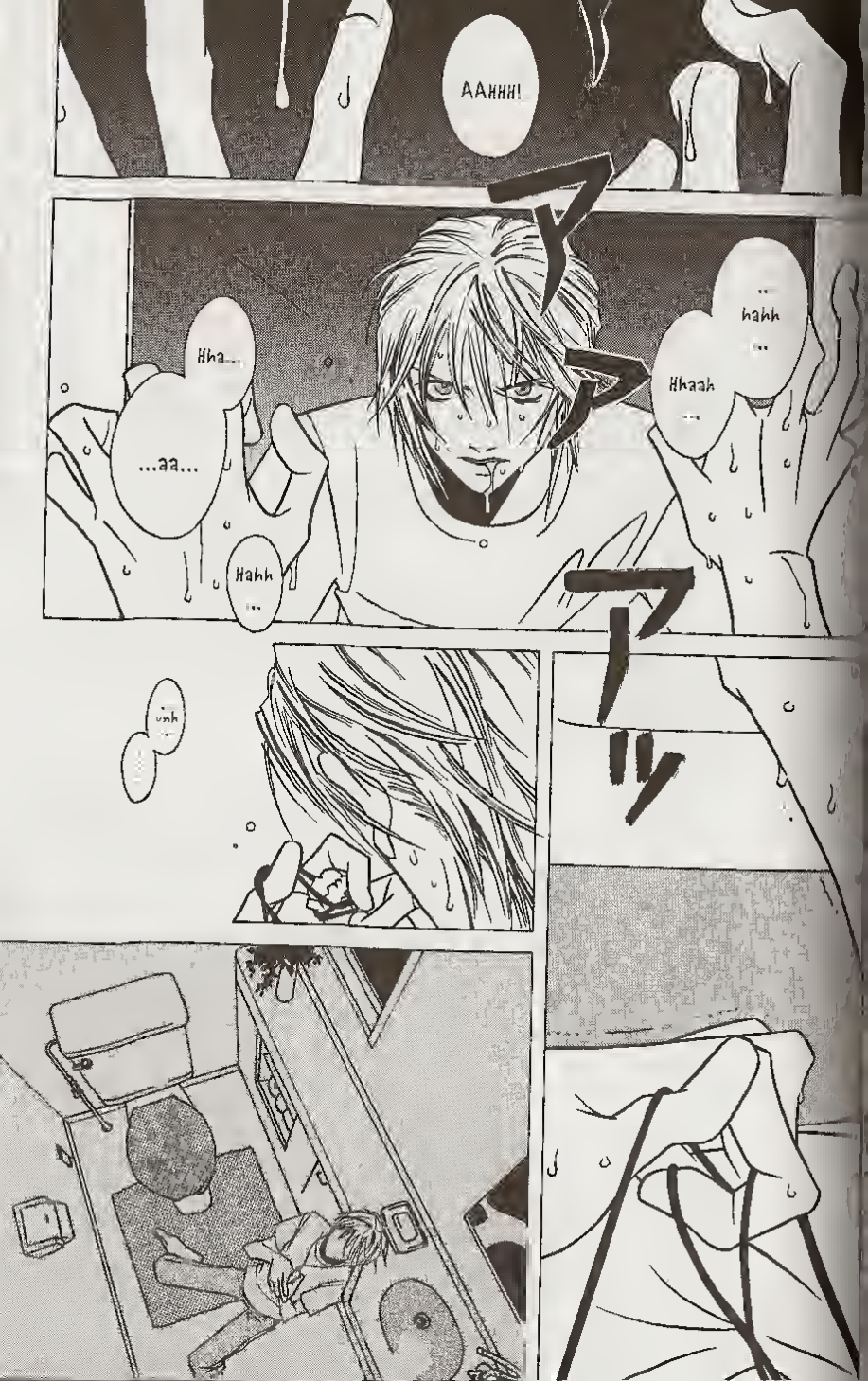
IT'S UTTERLY STUNNING! HE REALLY GOT HER TO SPEAK?!
A PATIENT WHO DIDN'T SAY A WORD FOR SEVEN YEARS?!
WELL, WHAT DO YOU EXPECT FROM DR. GOLDEN BOY? Ha ha ha!
You know, he and I were in the same class in med school. Tee hee.
Oh La La!
SOUNDS LIKE SHE'S HEADED FOR REAL RECOVERY NOW.

...AND HE PULLED ME UP FROM THE DEPTHS.

END


鉱物君
Mister Mineral

...THE XIPHOID CARTILAGE.
PLEASE POUR THE CHLOROFORM IN YOUR WIDE-MOUTHED JAR.
...
NEXT...
CUT DIRECTLY ALONG THE CENTER LINE...
...BEING VERY CAUTIOUS NOT TO SEVER THE VEIN.
OBSERVE THE SKELETAL STRUCTURE...
WHOA!
IT MOVED!

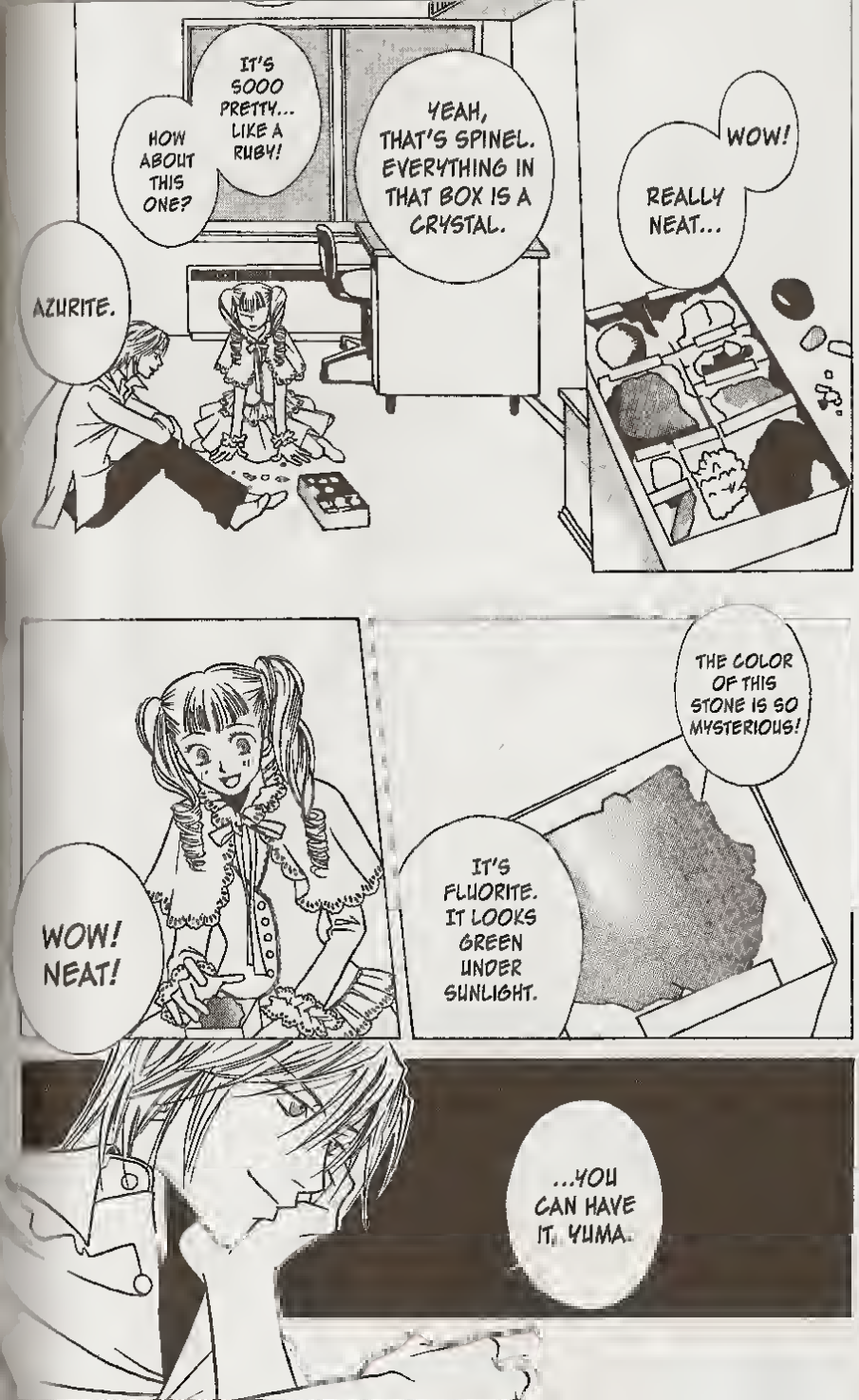

AAHHH!
Hha...
...aa...
Hahh...
...hahh...
Hhaah...
unh...

YO, NAKAYA, YOU WANNA COME, TOO? LITTLE HIKE?
BBQ AT THE TOP, BABY!
Gnugh!
WAS MAY ALWAYS THIS HOT?
FREAKIN' HOT!
I DON'T LIKE FLESH.
ANYONE MISSING A FISH FROM THEIR FREEZER?
IS THIS A "COLD FISH CROSSING" AND NO ONE TOLD ME?
I THINK HE'S COOL WHEN HE'S COLD.
LIKE HE'S NOT EVEN ALIVE OR SOMETHING...
OH SURE. IF YOU'RE UNDEAD LIKE HIM, YOU PROBABLY DON'T EVEN HAVE TO GO TO THE BATHROOM. THAT'S COOL.
Yeah, that's cool...

THEY LOOK LIKE A PAIR OF PRE-PUBESCENT PLASTIC DOLLS.
Can you believe they're in college?
YOU DIDN'T KNOW? I HEAR THEY'RE GOING OUT!
Let's eat lunch in the park
ACK. LOOK!
HE'S WITH YIPPEE YUMA, THE SUPER SUNSHINE GIRL.
SUTAYA
ビデオ CD
...BUT THEY AREN'T LIKE ANY OF THE PRETTY STONES YOU HAVE, NAKAYA...
Y'KNOW SOMETIMES? IF I KEEP LOOKING, I FIND TEENSY TINY SEASHELLS IN THE SAND...

わあっ
...KAYA?
NAKAYA? WHAT'S WRONG? ...HELLO?
...AH...
I GOT IT.
HA HA...I'LL SHOW YOU SOMETHING NICE.

PRETTY, PRETTY!
WHEN I DO THIS...
...IT RELAXES ME.
IT'S A CRYSTAL.
PRIMITIVE PEOPLE THOUGHT IT WAS HARD ICE THAT WOULDN'T MELT.
MM-HM! I UNDERSTAND. THAT'S NICE!


AZURITE.
HOW ABOUT THIS ONE?
IT'S SOOO PRETTY... LIKE A RUBY!
YEAH, THAT'S SPINEL. EVERYTHING IN THAT BOX IS A CRYSTAL.
WOW! REALLY NEAT...
WOW! NEAT!
IT'S FLUORITE. IT LOOKS GREEN UNDER SUNLIGHT.
THE COLOR OF THIS STONE IS SO MYSTERIOUS!
...YOU CAN HAVE IT, YUMA.

I REALLY LIKE YOU.
REALLY ?!
I'M SO HAPPY, NAKAYA!!
IT'S LIKE YOUR TREASURE, ISN'T IT?
OH NO...
OH...
TEE HEE...

YUMA, YOU'RE LIKE A PRETTY CRYSTAL.
WHAT?
...WITH NO...WITH NOTHING ELSE...
ALL THROUGH YOUR BODY...
MOM!

DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE GARBAGE! IT SMELLS HORRIBLE!
Yes, yes.
I'M SORRY, IT JUST STARTED, I DIDN'T...
OH, IT'S NO GOOD. NO GOOD. I HAVE TO GO GET A SHOVEL.
BAD LUCK! DID IT HAVE TO BE RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE STORE?!

!
NAKAYA! HONEY!
...IT'S TOO HOT FOR ALL THIS... Mumble
SHIT. Mumble
WHY ALL THIS TODAY... Mumble
That's scary
I JUST DROPPED BY YOUR HOUSE, BUT I MISSED YOU!
Yay! I'm so glad I found you!
YUMA.

WHAT?
I HAVE A BABY... IN MY TUMMY!
THAT MAKES ME REALLY HAPPY! YOU KNOW, NAKAYA, SOMETHING AMAZING HAS HAPPENED TO ME AND I SIMPLY WANTED TO SHARE IT WITH YOU RIGHT AWAY!
I'M RELIEVED NOW THAT I SEE YOUR FACE, YUMA.
YOU SAVED ME--I WAS FEELING KIND OF BAD, BUT...
...WHAT?
NAKAYA? ARE YOU LISTENING? WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED!
I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST THAT THIS TIME, TOO, BUT...
YOU KNOW MY TIME OF THE MONTH IS IRREGULAR, SO...

ISN'T IT AMAZING?! IN JUST FOUR MONTHS, THE DOCTOR SAYS I'LL BE ABLE TO FEEL OUR BABY MOVING AROUND!!
WE CAN RENT A LITTLE PLACE-- EVEN A ONE-ROOM IS FINE TO START WITH.
YEP, GROWING IN MY TUMMY!
WE'RE GONNA GRADUATE NEXT YEAR, SO IT'LL ALL WORK OUT PERFECTLY.
GROWING INSIDE YOU?

BLURGHPH!

END

TOKYOPOP

THE MANGA REVOLUTION · LEADING · 漫画革命 · THE MANGA REVOLUTION

Manga
Fantasy
US $9.99
CAN $12.50
UK £6.99

A future in which children are bereft of sexual desir... [illegible] who spends her life resisting a penchant for biting... [illegible] gets twisted love advice from a robot maid...

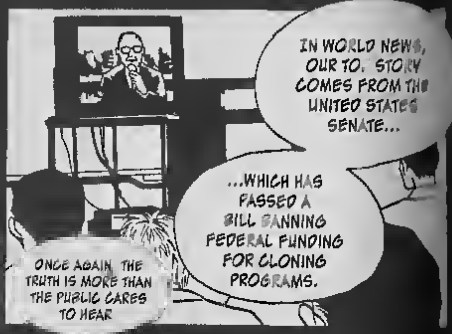
The incredible Mitsukazu Mihara delivers seven stories that spotlight agonizing truisms of the human condition, painting a vivid picture of humanity at once consumed and rescued by its own desires. Dynamic characters, thrilling scenarios, passion in action... There is only one Mihara.

ISBN 978-1-59816-769-6
50999
9 781598 167696
www.TOKYOPOP.com

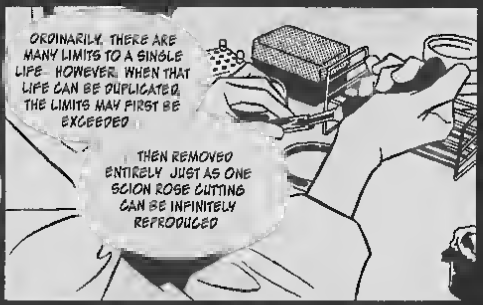
M
MATURE
AGES 18+

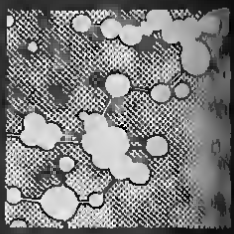
FANTASY

OUR LIVES ARE PREDETERMINED BY THE NEEDS OF OTHERS.


IN WORLD NEWS, OUR TO. STORY COMES FROM THE UNITED STATES SENATE...
...WHICH HAS PASSED A BILL BANNING FEDERAL FUNDING FOR CLONING PROGRAMS.
ONCE AGAIN, THE TRUTH IS MORE THAN THE PUBLIC CARES TO HEAR

WE LIVE TO BE CONSUMED.


ORDINARILY, THERE ARE MANY LIMITS TO A SINGLE LIFE. HOWEVER, WHEN THAT LIFE CAN BE DUPLICATED, THE LIMITS MAY FIRST BE EXCEEDED
THEN REMOVED ENTIRELY JUST AS ONE SCION ROSE CUTTING CAN BE INFINITELY REPRODUCED



OUR VALUE IS IN OUR DEATHS.

OUR LIVES HAVE NO MEANING.

あなたは生きて
Alive

!
.....
I ALWAYS HAVE NIGHTMARES IN THE RECOVERY ROOM.
LOOKS GOOD.
DON'T FORGET TO HAVE YOUR RESULTS SCANNED ONTO YOUR CARD.
NEXT.
NO!

PLACE ME!! WHY NOT?! THERE ARE MILLIONS OF PLACEMENTS FOR US ANY-WAY!!!
BE QUIET!
EVERY DAY! EVERY SINGLE DAY! I DON'T WANT TO BE TESTED ANYMORE!!
LET ME GO! I HATE THIS PLACE!
WAAAAH!
DO YOU THINK THEY WILL? I MEAN, SEND HIM TO ONE OF THE OTHER RESEARCH CENTERS?
WE MIGHT NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN ..
ASKED IT JUST ALL THE ...
ALL THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY FINISHED TODAY'S EXAMINATION, RETURN TO YOUR ROOMS IMMEDIATELY!
TOMORROW'S EXAMINATIONS BEGIN AT 8.30

FATHER RUNS THIS RESEARCH FACILITY.
HE THINKS OF US AS A PACK OF WALKING SCAN CARDS.
YOU...
DR. REIZEN WANTS TO SEE YOU.
COME IN.
FATHER.
YOU WORKED HARD, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU, LET'S SEE...YOU WERE AT THE HEAD OF YOUR CLASS...
...IN ACADEMICS AND ENDURANCE MEASUREMENTS LAST QUARTER.

...YES.
IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO GET THAT KIND OF CONFIRMATION HERE. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE COMPETITION ISN'T PRETTY...
IF YOU CAN OUTPERFORM ALL THE OTHERS, YOUR EXISTENCE WILL BE RECOGNIZED. ACKNOWLEDGED. BY NAME.
VERY GOOD, TOU. YOU MAY GO.
HEY.
STOP A SECOND.
I SAID STOP. WHAT DID YOU TWO CHAT ABOUT?

REALLY? THEN WHY ARE YOU THE ONLY ONE WHO GETS SPECIAL TREATMENT FROM FATHER?!
EVERYONE KNOWS YOU KISS UP TO THE RESEARCH AIDS AND GET THEM TO ADD POINTS TO YOUR CARD.
THAT'S A LIE!
GIVE IT BACK!!
HUNH!
YOU'RE A CHEATER, AREN'T YOU, TOU?
YEAH, DO THE BOTTOM OF HIS TONGUE!
YOU HOLD HIS LEGS!
DO THE INSIDE OF HIS MOUTH. NO MARKS ON THE BODY. WE WANT HIM TO HAVE HIS USUAL PERFECT EXAM!
ON THE SURFACE, THEY APPEAR TO BE HUMAN.

WE'VE SOLVED THAT PROBLEM. THIS IS THE BLOOD OF A CLONE.
THE COLOR OF ITS HEMOGLOBIN HAS BEEN ALTERED TO DIFFERENTIATE IT FROM HUMANS.
OF COURSE, THE COMPOSITION REMAINS THE SAME. IT IS, AFTER ALL, THE SAME AGGREGATION OF BLOOD CELLS AND PLASMA.
JEALOUS? YOU ALL HATE ME SO TERRIBLY? WHY DON'T YOU JUST...*TRY* HARDER TO *BEAT* ME?
THE PIGMENTATION IS NONREACTIVE, AND SHOULD CAUSE NO COMPLICATIONS DURING TRANSPLANT SURGERY.
WE ALL KNOW, IN THE BACK OF OUR MINDS...

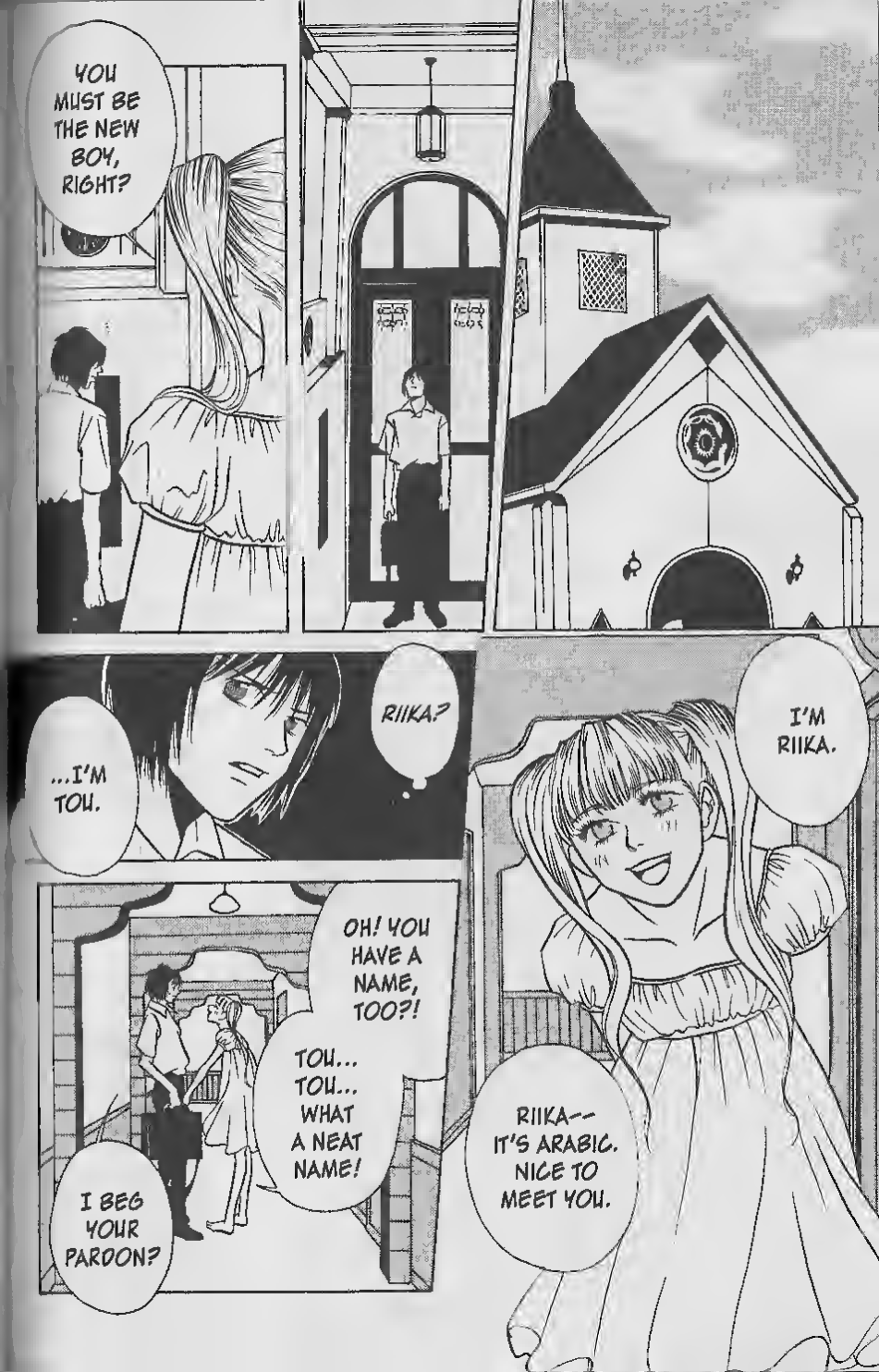
...AND WHAT IT IS THAT WE ARE.
...WHAT THIS RESEARCH FACILITY IS FOR...
YES.
BONE MARROW ASPIRATION TODAY, SO IT'LL BE A BIT ROUGH.
WE TRY NOT TO THINK ABOUT IT. AND WE CALL HIM FATHER ANYWAY.
DO YOU THINK THEY WILL? I MEAN, SEND HIM TO ONE OF THE OTHER RESEARCH CENTERS?
WE MIGHT NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN...
THAT'S ALL RIGHT, ISN'T IT?

AW, NO APPETITE TODAY?
OOWN ...
YOU KNOW, TOU...I HEARD...
...THAT THEY'RE SENDING YOU TO ANOTHER CENTER?
WHAT HAPPENED? HAS MR. PERFECT BEEN LOSING HIS TOUCH?
SOMEONE OVERHEARD FATHER DISCUSSING IT WITH A RESEARCH ASSISTANT.
?
.....

YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME?! FIND OUT FOR YOURSELF!!
YEEEK!
YOU'RE LYING!
Snicker
YOU MUST HAVE DONE SOMETHING TO MAKE FATHER ANGRY...
IT'S A LIE. I DIDN'T DO ANY--
YOU'RE MOVING TO A SPECIAL INSTITUTION.

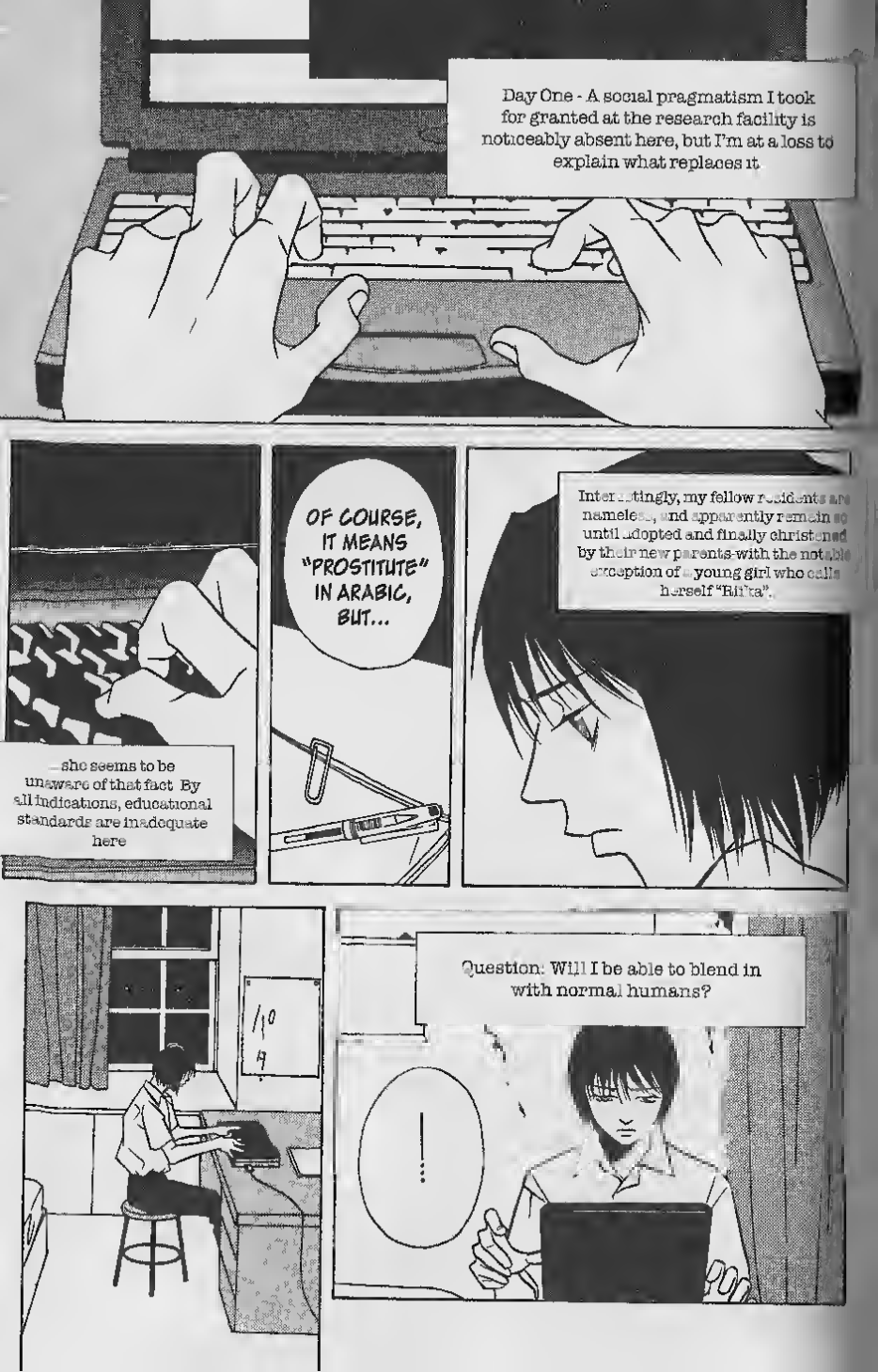
INST-- INSTITUTION? FATHER, WH--
WHAT KIND...OF INSTITUTION ?
IT'S A KIND OF ORPHANAGE, TOU.
YOU'LL BE EXPECTED TO WRITE REPORTS WHILE YOU'RE THERE, CHRONICLING YOUR EXPERIENCES. YOUR FEELINGS.
.....
IS THAT... ALL?
THAT'S ALL. YOU LEAVE IN ONE WEEK.
UNDER-STOOD?

.....
...YES.
MAKE SURE YOU SEND AN E-MAIL AT LEAST ONCE EVERY THREE DAYS.
IF ANY PROBLEMS OCCUR, CONTACT SAKAKIBARA AT THE FACILITY IMMEDIATELY.
CHIRP CHIRP
.....


YOU MUST BE THE NEW BOY, RIGHT?
I'M RIIKA.
RIIKA?
...I'M TOU.
RIIKA-- IT'S ARABIC. NICE TO MEET YOU.
OH! YOU HAVE A NAME, TOO?!
TOU... TOU... WHAT A NEAT NAME!
I BEG YOUR PARDON?

IT'S JUST... NONE OF THE REST OF THE KIDS AROUND HERE HAVE NAMES... SEE?
THEY SAY YOU DON'T GET ONE UNTIL SOMEBODY WANTS YOU.
IT'S AN ORPHANAGE.
...THEN ...YOU'VE BEEN... A--?
OH NO! I GOT MINE SECRETLY... KAMIYA GAVE ME MY NAME.
THIS IS YOUR ROOM.
KAMIYA'S THE GUY WHO DELIVERS OUR SUPPLIES ONCE A MONTH. HE'S REALLY NICE.
HE'S TRAVELED ALL OVER. HE'S EVEN BEEN TO ARABIA AND...MM?
WHY DO YOU ASK ME THAT?
TOU? ARE YOU HUNGRY?

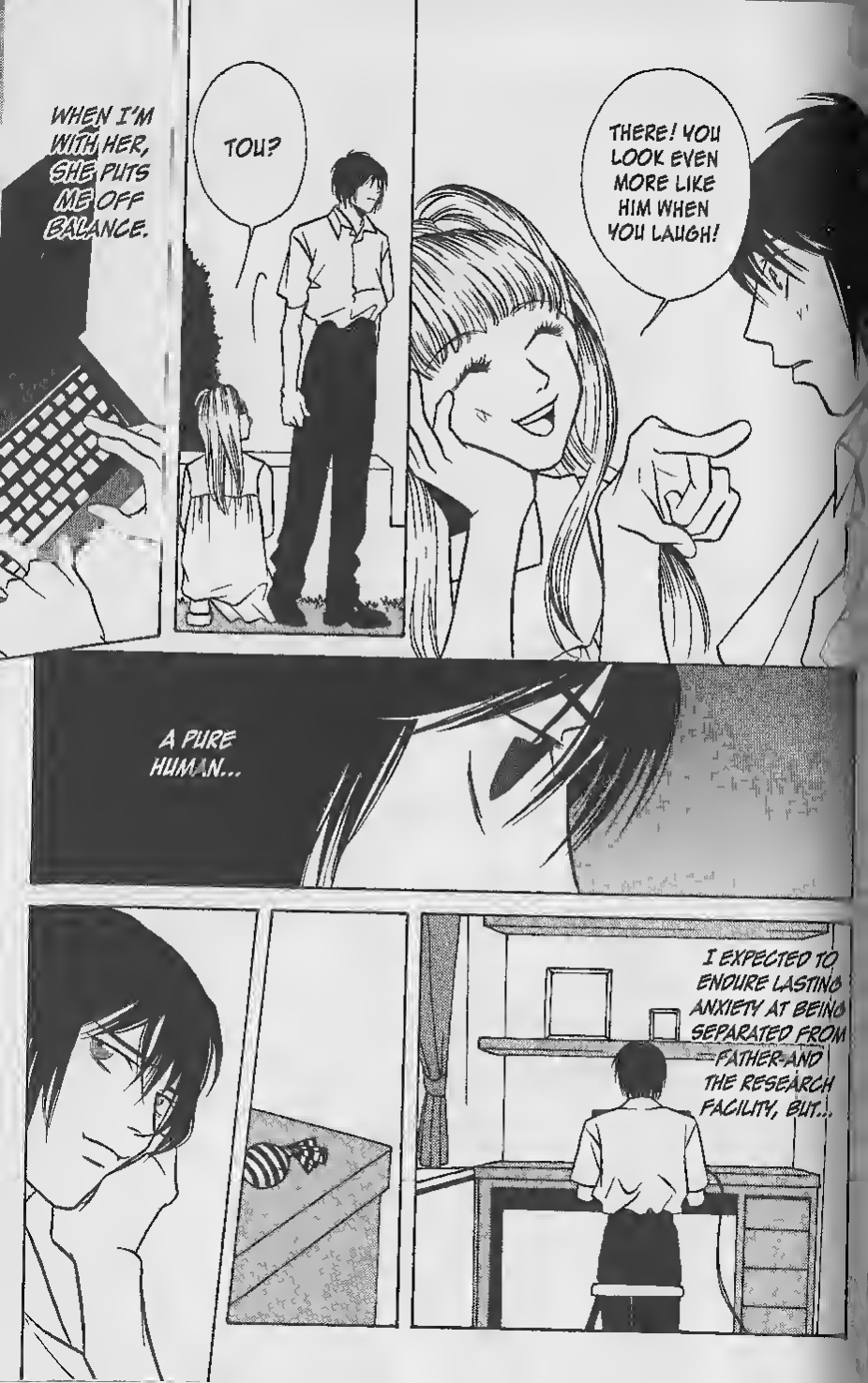
KAMIYA GAVE IT TO ME. IT'S ANOTHER SECRET!
I FOUND BIG SISTER! COME ON, PLAY WITH ME!
Boo!
?
'CUZ YOU'RE QUIET...YOU HAVEN'T SAID A WORD!
Umm...
HERE, YOU CAN HAVE THIS.
DON'T FORGET, MY NAME'S A SECRET, OKAY?
PEEK


Day One - A social pragmatism I took for granted at the research facility is noticeably absent here, but I'm at a loss to explain what replaces it.
—she seems to be unaware of that fact. By all indications, educational standards are inadequate here.
OF COURSE, IT MEANS "PROSTITUTE" IN ARABIC, BUT...
Interestingly, my fellow residents are nameless, and apparently remain so until adopted and finally christened by their new parents with the notable exception of a young girl who calls herself "Rifka".
Question: Will I be able to blend in with normal humans?
...

YOU DON'T LIKE VEGE-TABLES?
YOU SHOULDN'T BE SO PICKY.
THIS IS WHAT YOU CONSUME?
IT'S NOT THAT. WHERE I CAME FROM, ALL WE ATE WERE PILLS AND JELLY. THIS...
.....
TH--
.THANK Y--
HERE, TRY SOME OF MINE!
IT'S GOOD, ISN'T IT?!
!
HEY, BIG BROTHER! COME READ ME A STORY!

!!!
AAAH!
WAAAH!
GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME!!!
TOU!
TOU...

YOU, YOU'RE JUST LIKE MY LITTLE BROTHER BEFORE HE GOT ADOPTED.
I DON'T KNOW... HOW TO REACT...
MY WHOLE LIFE, I'VE BEEN LEARNING HOW TO DEFEND MYSELF AGAINST OTHERS...
LISTEN ...
.....
...I'M NOT USED TO PEOPLE WHO BEHAVE LIKE THIS.
ANOTHER LITTLE BROTHER ?
YOU KNOW! ANY BOY LITTLER THAN ME IS MY LITTLE BROTHER...
THAT LITTLE BROTHER TURNED OUT TO BE VERY SWEET.
I THINK YOU'RE GONNA TURN OUT SWEET, TOO, TOU!
After all, you have his eyes!
.....
YOUR SYLLOGISM IS DEEPLY FLAWED.


WHEN I'M WITH HER, SHE PUTS ME OFF BALANCE.
YOU?
THERE! YOU LOOK EVEN MORE LIKE HIM WHEN YOU LAUGH!
A PURE HUMAN...
I EXPECTED TO ENDURE LASTING ANXIETY AT BEING SEPARATED FROM FATHER AND THE RESEARCH FACILITY, BUT...

...IT'S EXTRAORDINARY. I FEEL UTTERLY AT PEACE.
"THE THOUGHT PROCESSES INVOKED WHEN A PUBESCENT CLONE COMES INTO CONTACT WITH A HUMAN."
FIRST IMPRESSIONS?
WELL, OBVIOUSLY I'M PRAYING THAT THE CLONE ISN'T CONSUMED BEFORE OUR GRAND EXPERIMENT IS OVER.
I JUST READ TOU'S LATEST ACCOUNT.
IT'S PRETTY PROFOUND MATERIAL, ISN'T IT?
MM-HM...
I MEAN, LISTEN TO THE TITLE...
NOTHING CAN BE DONE IF A REQUEST COMES IN.

It's incredible how quickly I've acclimated to life here.

I BROUGHT A PRESENT FOR YOU, LITTLE RIIKA.
THANK YOU, KAMIYA!
RIIKA?
?!
WHAT IS HE--
QUIT THAT!
YES!
BUT IF I DO THAT, YOU GOTTA REMEMBER TO KEEP OUR TIME TOGETHER A SECRET FROM EVERYONE, RIGHT?
WOW! REALLY?
NEXT TIME, I'LL BRING YOU SOME CHOCOLATE.

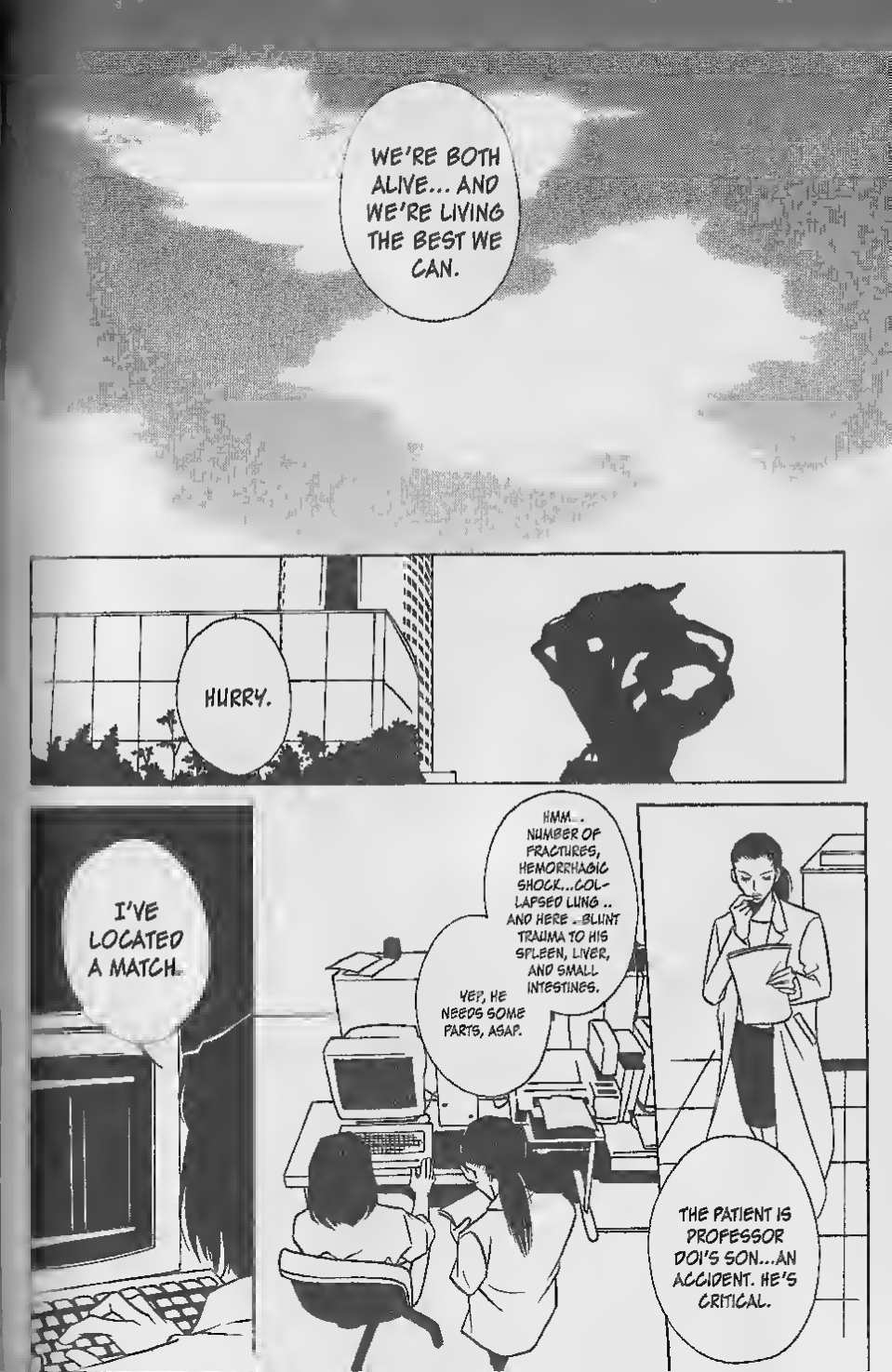
WHAT'S WRONG, TOU?!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GAVE HER THAT AWFUL NAME, AREN'T YOU?!
EEK!
KAMIYA, STOP! STOP!!!
!
GET AWAY FROM HER!
UM, WHO'RE YOU?!
TOU!
TOU? ...TOU? ARE YOU OKAY, TOU?
I'M ALL RIGHT ...
I'M FINE... FINE...
...TOU.

.....
I
WHY DID... WHAT DID YOU MEAN... YOU SAID I HAVE AN "AWFUL NAME"?
DO YOU THINK MY NAME...IS AWFUL?
RIIKA, IT--
REALLY?
NO.
I THINK YOU HAVE A WONDERFUL NAME.
RIIKA IS...THE BEST NAME IN THE WORLD.

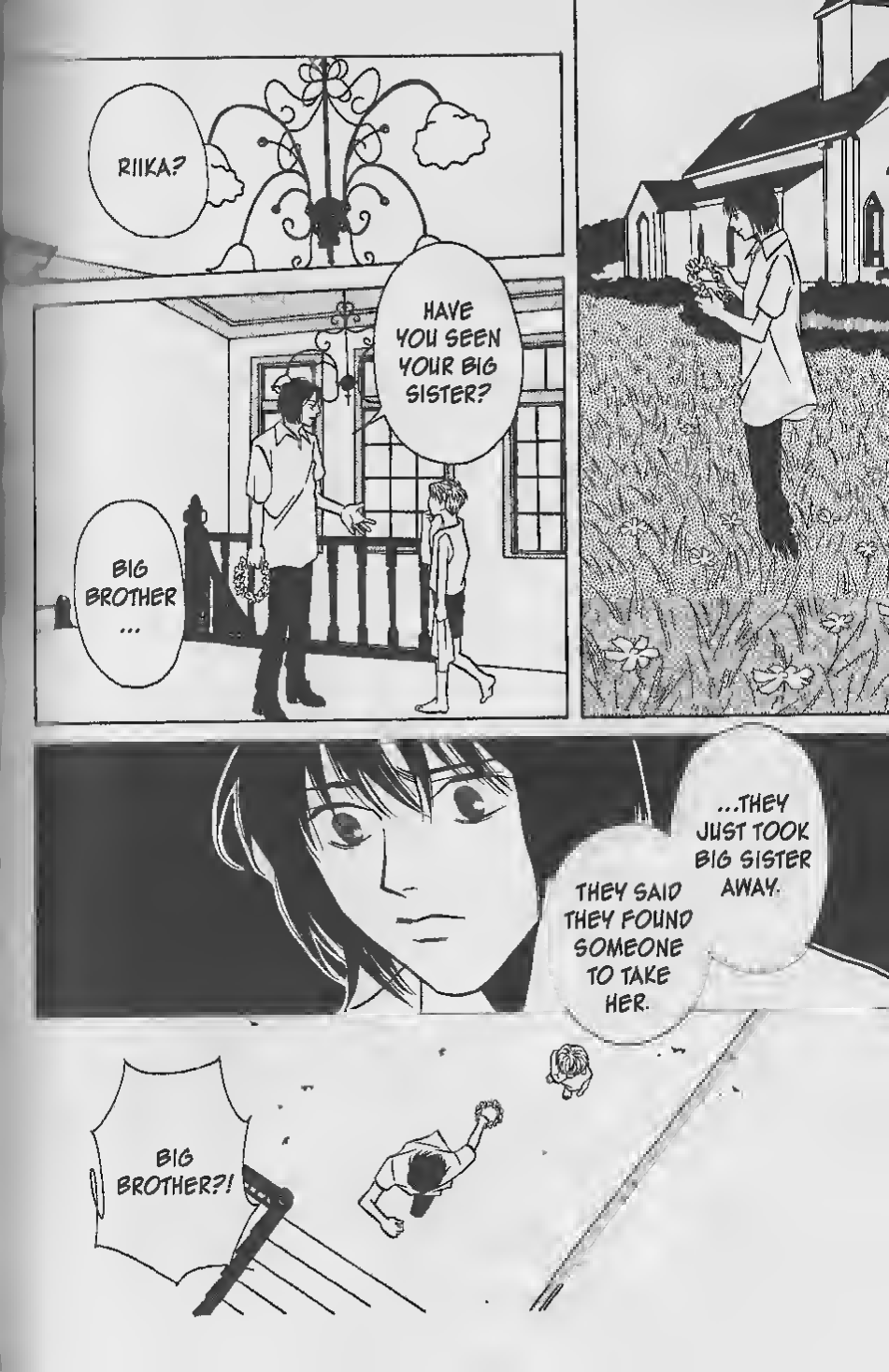
YES, RIIKA?
TOU, YOUR BLOOD...
IT... IT LOOKS DIFFERENT ...

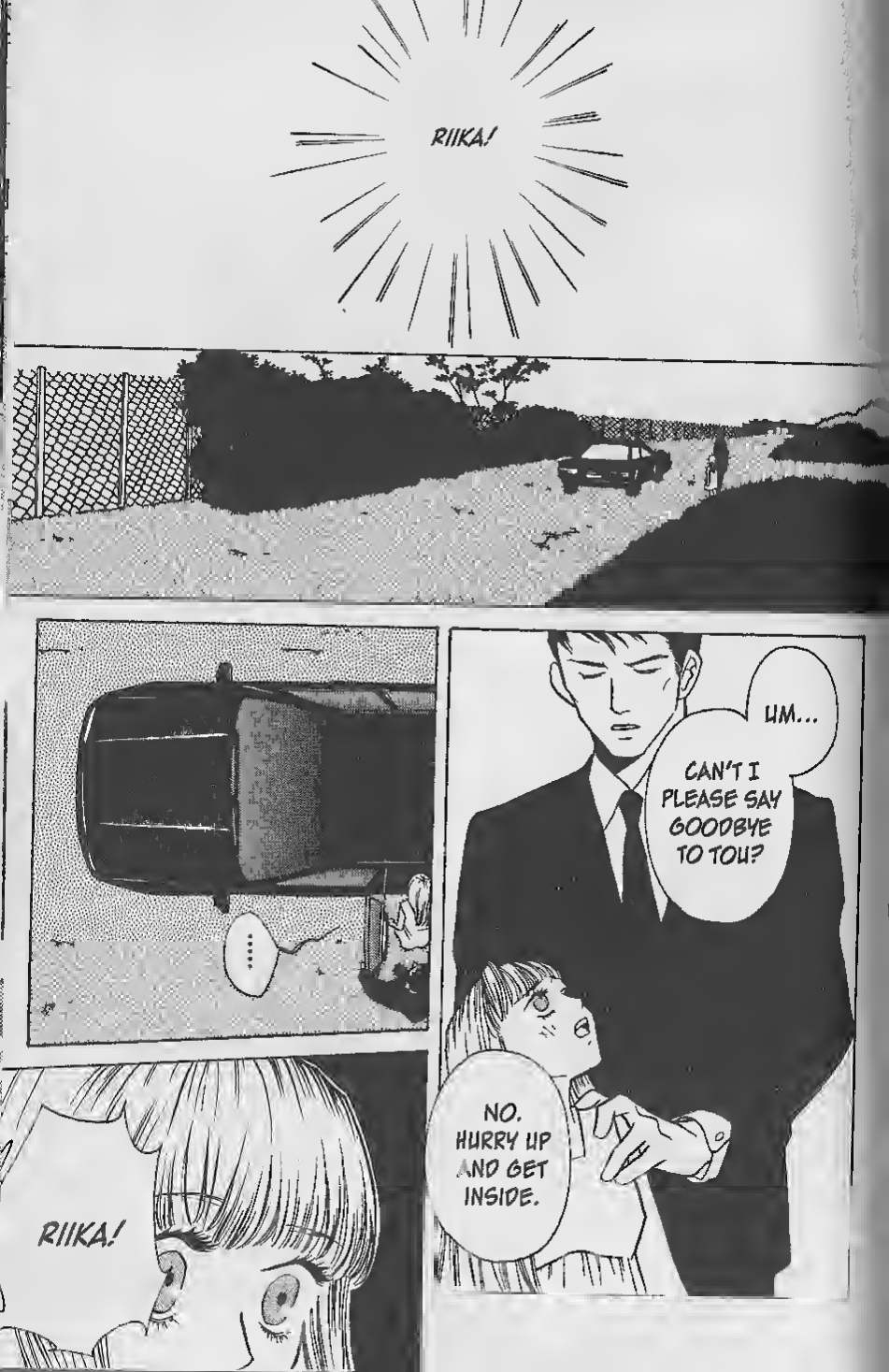
.....
... RIIKA ...
I'M NOT LIKE YOU. YOU PEOPLE...
I'M NOT HUMAN. I'M A CLONE.
OUR LIVES HAVE NO MEANING.
...RIIKA.
LIVING HERE...IT'S SO PEACE-FUL AND GENTLE... I ALMOST FORGOT...
I'VE UPSET YOU, HAVEN'T I... I'M SORRY.

HOLD STILL.
THIS IS WHAT HUMANS DO WHEN THEY'RE NOT SURE OF THINGS.
TOU...
WITHOUT THAT CARD, I ALMOST....
MY LIFE IS...
... WORTH-LESS.
I CAN FEEL YOUR HEART BEATING.
SEE? WE'RE THE SAME, TOU.


WE'RE BOTH ALIVE... AND WE'RE LIVING THE BEST WE CAN.
HURRY.
I'VE LOCATED A MATCH.
HMM... NUMBER OF FRACTURES, HEMORRHAGIC SHOCK...COLLAPSED LUNG.. AND HERE - BLUNT TRAUMA TO HIS SPLEEN, LIVER, AND SMALL INTESTINES.
YEP, HE NEEDS SOME PARTS, ASAP.
THE PATIENT IS PROFESSOR DOI'S SON...AN ACCIDENT. HE'S CRITICAL.

THIS IS...
!
WELL, YOU TAKE CARE OF IT.
YES.
CAN'T BE HELPED. HARVEST.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT THE CONTACT REPORT?
DIS-CONTINUE IT.


RIIKA?
HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR BIG SISTER?
BIG BROTHER ...
...THEY JUST TOOK BIG SISTER AWAY.
THEY SAID THEY FOUND SOMEONE TO TAKE HER.
BIG BROTHER?!


RIIKA!
UM...
CAN'T I PLEASE SAY GOODBYE TO YOU?
NO. HURRY UP AND GET INSIDE.
RIIKA!

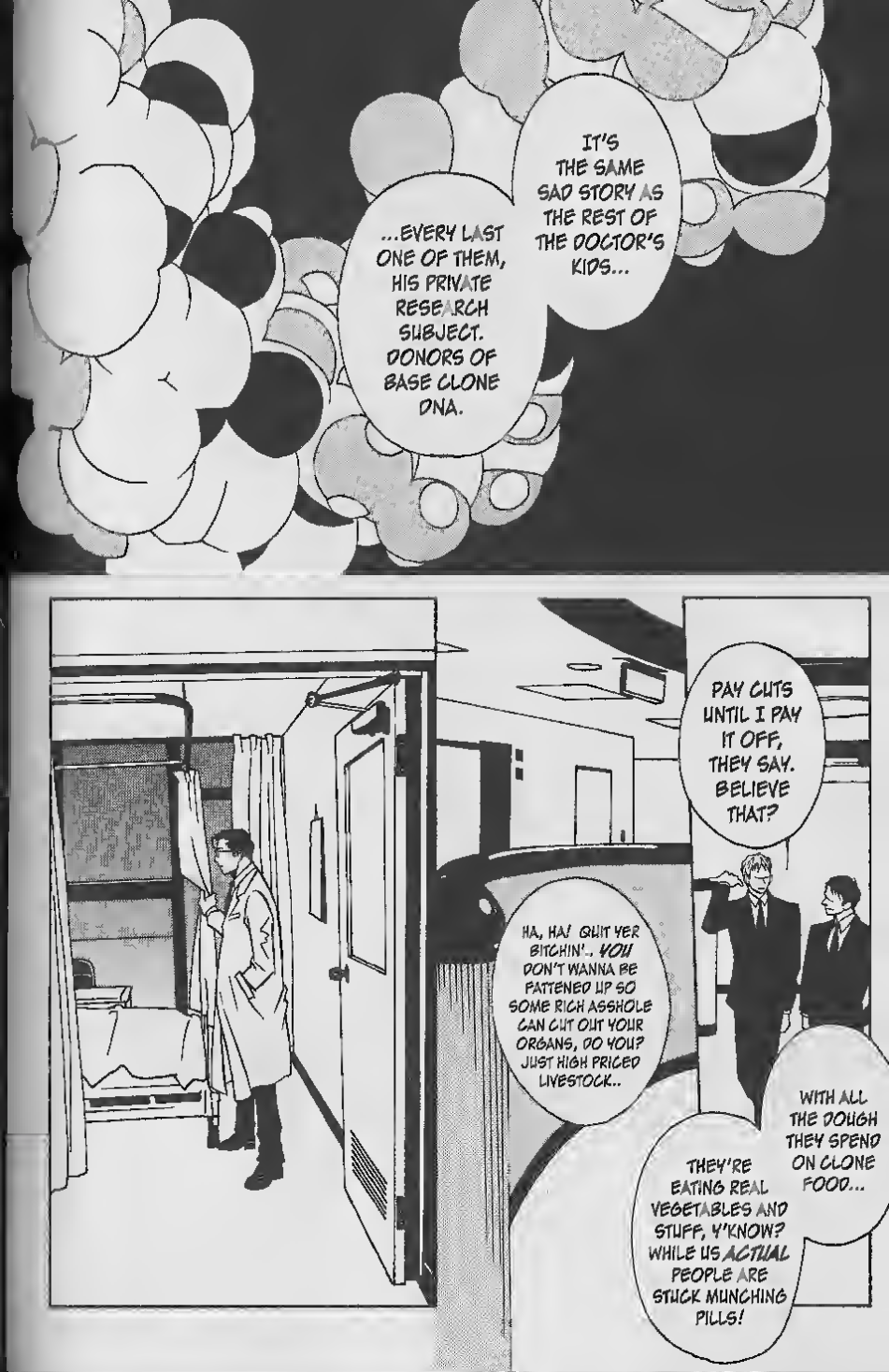
WAIT!
TOU!
WHAT'S WITH THIS ONE?
OH FOR THE LOVE OF.. NOW EVERYONE IN THE WHOLE PLACE WILL BE COMING OUT HERE!
PLEASE, I'M BEGGING YOU! DON'T TAKE HER AWAY!!
PLEASE, I...
YOU! STAY BACK!
RIIKA!

WATCH IT! DON'T HIT ANY ORGANS! THAT'S SOME SERIOUSLY VALUABLE PRODUCT!
HEY, WE ABSOLUTELY DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS SHIT.
I KNOW.
GOD DAMN IT!
I NEED HER!!!
TOU!

THE SHIT I HAVE TO GO THROUGH...
?!

WHAT THE FUCK ...???
RED...HIS BLOOD IS RED; IS THIS GUY HUMAN?!
MOTHER FUCKER!!! WHAT IS A HUMAN DOING IN THE MIDDLE OF A CLONE FARM?!
OH MY GOD, I SHOT A HUMAN!

MM-HM... MM-HM...
AND THE TRANSPLANT SURGERY?
THANK GOODNESS, WE MADE IT IN TIME? SMALL FAVORS...
HN?
YES, THAT'S RIGHT. THE TOU THAT WAS SHOT WAS THE SAME TOU FROM THE RESEARCH FACILITY.
...RIIKA.
WELL, I DON'T KNOW WHY HE THOUGHT HE WAS A CLONE...
YES. HE'S DR. REIZEN'S 10TH CHILD.
HE WAS ALWAYS A BRIGHT ONE. HE MUST HAVE REALIZED SOMETHING WAS UP.


IT'S THE SAME SAD STORY AS THE REST OF THE DOCTOR'S KIDS...
...EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM, HIS PRIVATE RESEARCH SUBJECT. DONORS OF BASE CLONE DNA.
PAY CUTS UNTIL I PAY IT OFF, THEY SAY. BELIEVE THAT?
HA, HA! QUIT YER BITCHIN'.. YOU DON'T WANNA BE FATTENED UP SO SOME RICH ASSHOLE CAN CUT OUT YOUR ORGANS, DO YOU? JUST HIGH PRICED LIVESTOCK..
WITH ALL THE DOUGH THEY SPEND ON CLONE FOOD...
THEY'RE EATING REAL VEGETABLES AND STUFF, Y'KNOW? WHILE US ACTUAL PEOPLE ARE STUCK MUNCHING PILLS!

HERE'S YOUR CARD BACK, TOU.
I TOOK CARE OF YOUR BELONG-INGS
NO REASON FOR YOU TO HAVE TO RETURN THERE.
I DON'T CARE ONE-BIT ABOUT THAT CARD ANYMORE.
WE LIVE TO BE CONSUMED.
NO.
OUR VALUE IS IN OUR DEATHS. OUR LIVES HAVE NO MEANING.
YOU'RE WRONG.

SHE TAUGHT ME WHAT
BEING HUMAN IS.
I'LL NEVER MEET
ANOTHER LIKE HER.

RIIKA.

END